

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND URBAN FORESTRY BOARD

# **AGENDA**

# REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 SENIOR CENTER – 266 ESCUELA AVENUE 7:00 P.M.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

- 2. **ROLL CALL**—Commissioners Roger Burney, Thida Cornes, Jonathan Herbach, Katherine Naegele (Vice Chairperson), and Helen Wolter (Chairperson).
- 3. MINUTES APPROVAL

# 3.1 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Minutes for the July 9, 2014 meeting have been delivered to Commissioners and a copy posted on the Community Center bulletin board. If there are no corrections or additions, a motion is in order to approve these minutes.

### 4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda. Speakers are limited to three minutes. State law prohibits the Commission from acting on nonagenda items.

- 5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—None.
- 6. **NEW BUSINESS**

### 6.1 HERITAGE TREE APPEAL – 913 BORANDA AVENUE

Deny the appeal and allow tree to remain.

## 6.2 NAMING OF MCKELVEY MINI-PARK

Select at least two names for City Council consideration for the new minipark to be constructed at McKelvey Park.

# 6.3 DRAFT OF THE 2014 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Review and recommend the City Council approve the draft 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan.

# 7. COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMISSION REPORTS

No action will be taken on any questions raised by the Commission at this time.

# 8. ADJOURNMENT

CV/8/CSD 231-09-10-14A-E

# AGENDAS FOR BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

- The specific location of each meeting is noted on the notice and agenda for each meeting which is posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Special meetings may be called as necessary by the Commission Chair and noticed at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
- Questions and comments regarding the agenda may be directed to Champika Valencia, Executive Assistant, at (650) 903-6400.
- Interested persons may review the agenda at the Mountain View Community Center (201 South Rengstorff Avenue), Mountain View Senior Center (266 Escuela Avenue) and City Hall (500 Castro Street) beginning the Friday evening before each regular meeting.
- SPECIAL NOTICE—Reference: Americans with Disabilities Act, 1990

  Anyone who is planning to attend a meeting who is visually or hearing-impaired or has any disability that needs special assistance should call the Community Services Department at (650) 903-6331 48 hours in advance of the meeting to arrange for assistance. Upon request by a person with a disability, agendas and writings distributed during the meeting that are public records will be made available in the appropriate alternative format.
- The Board, Commission, or Committee may take action on any matter noticed herein in any manner deemed appropriate by the Board, Commission, or Committee. Their consideration of the matters noticed herein is not limited by the recommendations indicated herein.
- SPECIAL NOTICE—Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Mountain View Community Center, located at 201 South Rengstorff Avenue, during normal business hours and at the meeting location noted on the agenda during the meeting.

# ADDRESSING THE BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE

- Interested persons are entitled to speak on any item on the agenda and should make their interest known to the Chair.
- Anyone wishing to address the Board, Commission, or Committee on a nonagenda item
  may do so during the "Oral Communications" part of the agenda. Speakers are allowed
  to speak one time on any number of topics for up to three minutes.



# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND URBAN FORESTRY BOARD

# **MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2014 SENIOR CENTER – 266 ESCUELA AVENUE 7:00 P.M.

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Wolter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present:** Commissioners Roger Burney (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), Thida Cornes, Jonathan Herbach (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Katherine Naegele (Vice Chairperson), and Helen Wolter (Chairperson).

**Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director, and John Marchant, Recreation Manager.

# 3. MINUTES APPROVAL

# 3.1 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

**Motion** – M/S Naegele/Cornes – Carried 3-0-2; Burney, Herbach absent – Approve the June 11, 2014 minutes.

- 4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC –** None.
- 5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—None.

### 6. **NEW BUSINESS**

# 6.1 FRIENDS OF "R" HOUSE ANNUAL REPORT

Jennifer Roger, president of Friends of "R" House, presented the Friends' accomplishments of Fiscal Year 2013-14 at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The Commission thanked the Friends of "R" House and Ms. Roger for their dedication.

### 6.2 FRIENDS OF STEVENS CREEK TRAIL ANNUAL REPORT

Meghan Stawitcke, president of Friends of Stevens Creek Trail, presented the 2013 highlights of the Annual Report. The Commission thanked the Friends of Stevens Creek Trail and Ms. Stawitcke for their commitment.

# 7. COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Commission inquired about the Community Tree Master Plan survey, senior trips, 4th of July event, summer recreation programs, and informed the staff of an improperly pruned Heritage tree on Calderon Street. Staff addressed the Commission's inquires.

### 8. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Wolter adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Champika Valencia Executive Assistant

CV/3/CSD 231-07-09-14mn-E

# CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

# **MEMORANDUM**

Community Services Department

DATE: September 10, 2014

**TO:** Urban Forestry Board

**FROM:** Jakob Trconic, Parks Section Manager

SUBJECT: Heritage Tree Appeal – 913 Boranda Avenue

## RECOMMENDATION

Deny the appeal and allow tree to remain.

# FISCAL IMPACT

None.

# **BACKGROUND**

Article II, Protection of the Urban Forest, Sections 32.22 through 32.39 of the City Code, was established to preserve large trees within the City which are growing on private or public lands. The preservation program contributes to the welfare and aesthetics of the community and retains the great historical and environmental value of these trees. The Parks Section Manager, under the authority granted in the Code to the Community Services Director, has been designated as the enforcement agent in this matter. Under the Code, there are specific criteria for removal. The determination on each application is based upon a minimum of one of the following conditions. The decision-maker shall consider additional criteria, if applicable, in weighing the decision to remove a Heritage tree, with the emphasis on the intent to preserve Heritage trees.

- 1. The condition of the tree with respect to age of the tree relative to the life span of that particular species, disease, infestation, general health, damage, public nuisance, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures, and interference with utility services.
- 2. The necessity of the removal of the Heritage tree in order to construct improvements and/or allow reasonable and conforming use of the property when compared to other similarly situated properties.

- 3. The nature and qualities of the tree as a Heritage tree, including its maturity, its aesthetic qualities such as its canopy, its shape and structure, its majestic stature, and its visual impact on the neighborhood.
- 4. Good forestry practices such as, but not limited to, the number of healthy trees a given parcel of land will support and the planned removal of any tree nearing the end of its life cycle, and the replacement of young trees to enhance the overall health of the urban forest.
- 5. Balancing criteria: In addition to the criteria referenced above which may support removal, the decision-maker shall also balance the request for removal against the following which may support or mitigate against removal:
  - a. The topography of land and effect of the requested removal on erosion, soil retention, water retention, and diversion or increased flow of surface waters.
  - b. The effect of the requested removal on the remaining number, species, size, and location of existing trees on the site and in the area.
  - c. The effect of the requested removal with regard to shade, noise buffers, protection from wind damage and air pollution, and the effect upon the historic value and scenic beauty and the health, safety, prosperity, and general welfare of the area and the City as a whole.

Also within the Code, Section 32.31, an appeals process has been included that states:

"Any person aggrieved or affected by a decision on a requested removal may appeal the decision by filing a written notice of appeal with the City Clerk stating the grounds for the appeal, and paying the requisite appeal fee, as established by council resolution, within ten (10) calendar days after the notice of the decision is posted or mailed."

# HERITAGE TREE REMOVAL REQUEST

An application to remove a Heritage-size cedar tree (*Cedrus deodora*) at 913 Boranda Avenue was received on June 5, 2014. The application was submitted by Hiroshi Nogami, owner of the property. The criteria for removal listed on the original application were: "Removal for health concerns. Our one-year-old son has extreme allergies and eczema. Pollen is excessive and all members of the family suffer from severe hay fever." Forestry Division staff reviewed the application and visited the property to evaluate the tree. The tree was posted for denial on July 7, 2014.

An appeal filed by Hiroshi Nogami was received on July 7, 2014. In addition to the appeal letter, a secondary application was submitted with the reasoning for removal as: "Dangerous—branches are cracking and some limbs have already fallen onto public sidewalk."

# **ANALYSIS**

When evaluating Heritage Tree Removal Applications, staff looks to see if the reason(s) for removal on the application match what is observed in the field. If the reason(s) meet the criteria, staff looks to see if issue(s) regarding the tree can be reasonably mitigated. Based on inspection and evaluation of the cedar tree, the appeal should be denied.

The cedar tree (*Cedrus deodora*) has good structure with even branch spacing and is in very good health. Staff estimates the tree to be approximately 25 years old. The deodar cedar is an evergreen conifer tree that is favored for its weeping habit. It is often used as a specimen tree in parks and other large gardens and can also be used to line streets. They are fast-growing trees native to the Himalayas. In home gardens the deodar cedar will usually be 40' to 70' tall and 20' to 40' wide, forming into a pyramidal shape. Cedar trees can live to be over 100 years old. The tree is in an ideal location away from the sewer line and water service.

The owner of the property submitted the application with a concern about allergies specific to the tree. Cedar trees do produce pollen on long catkins for three to four weeks in the spring. Staff has conducted extensive research on trees and allergies many times. Cedar trees are considered mildly allergenic and, therefore, not commonly a problem to most people.

Allergies are a seasonal aliment with a number of different causal agents. These agents, pollens and dust particles, are windborne, traveling long distances. Staff noted there are five other deodar cedars within a 200' radius of the property. Removal of one tree has no effect on seasonal allergies. The tree was denied for removal because allergies can be effectively treated and are not a reason within the Code to consider removal of a Heritage tree.

The appeal letter was turned in with a secondary application with the reasoning listed as: "Dangerous—branches are cracking and some limbs have fallen." Staff did not note any signs of substantial recent branch failure in this street tree. Staff did note the tree would benefit from removal of some lower branches and end-weight reduction pruning. Trimming and end-weight reduction can help reduce the potential for branch failures. The tree has been scheduled for this work if it is preserved.

# **SUMMARY**

Staff is of the opinion the cedar tree is a very healthy tree with nice branch spacing and structure. The tree does not fit the criteria for removal. Staff recommends the appeal be denied and the tree be allowed to remain.

JT/CV/8/CSD 231-09-10-14M-E

Attachment: 1. Appeal Packet

cc: F/c

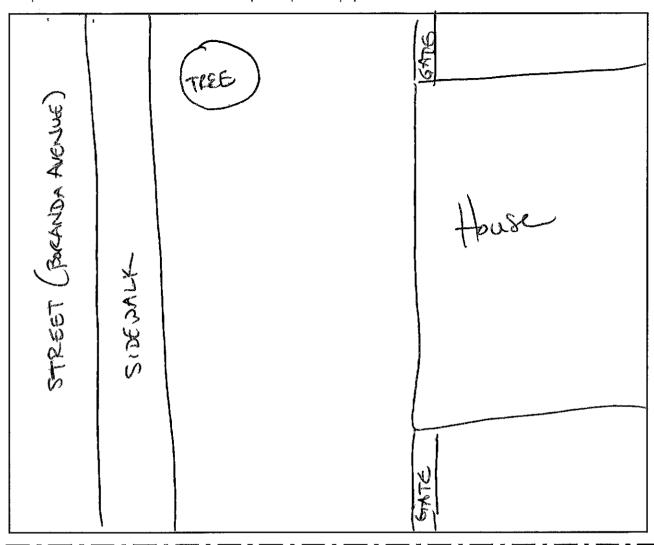
CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW, FORESTRY DIVISION 23† NORTH WHISMAN ROAD POST OFFICE BOX 7540 MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94039-7540 (650) 903-6273 M-F 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Fee: \$116, each additional tree, same site \$58

# APPLICATION FOR HERITAGE TREE REMOVAL PERMIT

The u	unders	signed owner of the property at 913 BORANDA AVENUE	
Phon	e No.	(Home) 646-715-4326 (Work)	
hereb	ру арр	lies for permission to remove Heritage tree(s) as follows:	
Comr	mon N	ame of Tree Number of Trees	
Circu	mfere	nce of tree 54" above ground: 52 "	
REAS	SON F	FOR REMOVAL: Check applicable box(es) below. There may be more than one reason.	
		: We request removal for health concerns. Our I year old son has extreme all	
erco erco	X.SS ()	rema friggered by his fever and palen (see attached pictures and the tree's pale we. All members of our I formily suffer from Severe way fever and sollen alteracion of tree with respect to age of the tree relative to the life span of that particular species, disease, infesteral health, damage, public nuisance, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures and interferentiality services.	
	The r	utility services.  necessity of the removal of the Heritage tree in order to construct improvements and/or allow $JUN-5$ 201 onable and conforming use of the property when compared to other similarly situated properties.	4
		nature and qualities of the tree as a Heritage tree, including its maturity, its aesthetic qualities such as its canep e and structure, its majestic stature and its visual impact on the neighborhood.	v <del>. its</del>
	plann	I forestry practices such as, but not limited to, the number of healthy trees a given parcel of land will support an ned removal of any tree nearing the end of its life cycle and the replacement of young trees to enhance the over h of the urban forest.	
		ANCING CRITERIA. In addition to the criteria referenced above which may support removal, the decision-make palance the request for removal against the following which may support or mitigate against removal:	er shall
		The topography of land and effect of the requested removal on erosion, soil retention, water retention and dive increased flow of surface waters.	rsion or
		The effect of the requested removal on the remaining number, species, size and location of existing trees on the and in the area.	ie site
		The effect of the requested removal with regard to shade, noise buffers, protection from wind damage and air pation and the effect upon the historic value and scenic beauty and the health, safety, prosperity and general well the area and the City as a whole.	
OWN	ER'S	PRINTED NAME HIROSHI, NOGAMI	. <u> </u>
OWN	ER'S	SIGNATURE	_
MAIL	ING A	DDRESS 913 BOLANDA AVENUE	
CITY		MOUNTAIN VIEW STATE CA ZIP 9-to-tes	_

**NOTE:** This form must be returned to the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division in its entirety upon completion by the applicant. The applicant has read and is familiar with Article II, Chapter 32 of the Mountain View City Code (copy attached). In providing the information on this form, please be aware that this information is public record subject to disclosure upon request.

(OVER)



# FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

This permit must be available at the work site at all times when the work is being done.

			•
RECOMMEND APPROVAL	RECOMMEND DENIAL	C/201	114
Arborist  APPROVED	DENIED	Date /	(4
Forestry and Roadway Landscape Manager		Date	
OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION:			
EFFECTIVE DATE:	(Permit expires two	years from effective da	ate.)
ACTION	DĄT	E	CLERK
<ol> <li>Applicant notified of decision by mail.</li> <li>Notice posted on tree.</li> <li>If no appeals, approved/denied application</li> </ol>	mailed.		
•			



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT • FORESTRY AND ROADWAY LANDSCAPE DIVISION 231 North Whisman Road • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, CA 94039-7540 • 650-903-6273 • FAX 650-961-6290

# HERITAGE TREE REMOVAL

# ACTION PENDING

Location:

913 BORANDA AVE.

Property Owner: HIROSHI NOGAMI

Type of Tree:

**CEDAR** 

Upon the completion of a field inspection, Forestry Division staff has determined that the request to have the tree/trees removed be:

\_\_ APPROVED

X DENIED

The following reason(s) are cited in rendering this decision:

CONDITION OF TREE: TREE DOES NOT MEET CRITIERIA FOR REMOVAL.

Any person wishing to appeal this action must file an appeal (Fee \$50) with the City Clerk's Office, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, by 5:00 p.m., <u>July 7, 2014</u> as outlined in Section 32.31 of the City of Mountain View City Code.

For further information regarding this Heritage Tree Removal Notice, contact the Forestry Division Office at (650) 903-6273

Date Posted: June 24, 2014

Parks Section Manager

# 913 Boranda Avenue Mountain View, CA 94040

City Clerk's Office 500 Castro Street Mountain View, CA 94040

July 7, 2014

RE: <u>Heritage Tree Removal Application - Appeal of Denial</u>

Dear City Clerk's Office:

Please find attached an Application for Heritage Tree Removal as an Appeal of the initial denial of the original application. Please also find attached a check in the amount of \$50.00 in payment of the fee to file this Appeal.

Please contact me at (646) 715-4326 if you need any further information. Thank you.

Regards,

Hiroshi Nogami

APPEAL DE DEVIAL
CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW, FORESTRY DIVISION
231 NORTH WHISMAN ROAD
POST OFFICE BOX 7540
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94039-7540

(650) 903-6273 M-F 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Fee: \$116, each additional tree, same site \$58

# APPLICATION FOR HERITAGE TREE REMOVAL PERMIT

The undersigned owner of the property at 113 DORANDA TVENUE, MOUNTAIN VIEW, LA 14
Phone No. (Home) (646) 715-4326 (Work)
nereby applies for permission to remove Heritage tree(s) as follows:
Common Name of Tree Ceda C Number of Trees
Circumference of tree 54" above ground: 52"
REASON FOR REMOVAL: Check applicable box(es) below. There may be more than one reason.
Comments: Dangerous - branches are Cracking and some limbs have already fuller orto public sidewalk. Intend to plant replacement tree.
The condition of tree with respect to age of the tree relative to the life span of that particular species, disease, infestation, general health, damage, public nuisance, danger of falling, proximity to existing or proposed structures and interference with utility services.
The necessity of the removal of the Heritage tree in order to construct improvements and/or allow reasonable and conforming use of the property when compared to other similarly situated properties.
The nature and qualities of the tree as a Heritage tree, including its maturity, its aesthetic qualities such as its canopy, its shape and structure, its majestic stature and its visual impact on the neighborhood.
Good forestry practices such as, but not limited to, the number of healthy trees a given parcel of land will support and the planned removal of any tree nearing the end of its life cycle and the replacement of young trees to enhance the overall health of the urban forest.
BALANCING CRITERIA. In addition to the criteria referenced above which may support removal, the decision-maker sha also balance the request for removal against the following which may support or mitigate against removal:
The topography of land and effect of the requested removal on erosion, soil retention, water retention and diversion increased flow of surface waters.
The effect of the requested removal on the remaining number, species, size and location of existing trees on the site and in the area.
The effect of the requested removal with regard to shade, noise buffers, protection from wind damage and air pollution and the effect upon the historic value and scenic beauty and the health, safety, prosperity and general welfare of the area and the City as a whole.
OWNER'S PRINTED NAME HIVOSHI NOGENI
OWNER'S SIGNATURE
MAILING ADDRESS 913 Borarda Frence, Mourtain View, CA 94tocto
CITY STATE ZIP

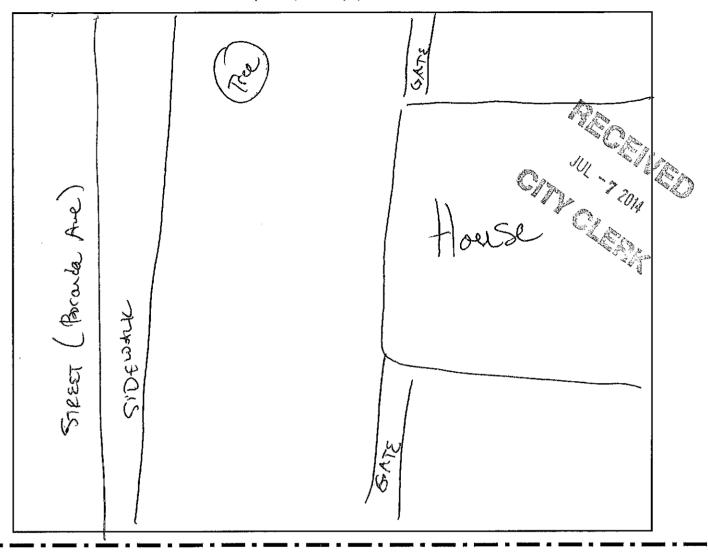
**NOTE:** This form must be returned to the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division in its entirety upon completion by the applicant. The applicant has read and is familiar with Article II, Chapter 32 of the Mountain View City Code (copy attached). In providing the information on this form, please be aware that this information is public record subject to disclosure upon request.

(OVER)

JUL -7 2014

CITY CLERK

LOCATION: Please include sketch or attach a separate piece of paper.



# FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

This permit must be available at the work site at all times when the work is being done.

☐ RECOMMEND APPROVAL	☐ RECOMMEND D	ENIAL		
Arborist		Date		
☐ APPROVED	☐ DENIED			
Forestry and Roadway Landscape Man	ager	Date		
OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION:				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	(Permit e	xpires two years from effe	ective date.)	
ACTION		DATE	CLERK	
<ol> <li>Applicant notified of decision by ma</li> <li>Notice posted on tree.</li> <li>If no appeals, approved/denied app</li> </ol>			N. C.	

# **MEMORANDUM**

Public Works Department

**DATE:** September 10, 2014

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Jacqueline Andrews Solomon, Assistant Public Works Director/City

Engineer

SUBJECT: Naming of McKelvey Mini-Park

# RECOMMENDATION

Select at least two names for City Council consideration for the new mini-park to be constructed at McKelvey Park.

# FISCAL IMPACT

The recommended action has no fiscal impact.

# **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

On May 14, 2013, the City Council approved the conceptual plan for the redevelopment of McKelvey Park to serve as a detention basin as part of the Santa Clara Valley Water District's (SCVWD) Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project. In addition to the reconstruction of the two existing ballfields, the conceptual plans include development of a new mini-park. As part of the development of the plans for the mini-park, the residents of the surrounding neighborhood requested that the City consider naming the mini-park separately.

# Naming of the New Park

City Council Policy K-17, "Naming of City Parks and Other City Facilities," outlines the procedures for naming of City parks and recreational facilities (Attachment 1). The policy states that a park may be named for a school on which it is located or street it is adjacent to or for a local landmark or historical figure. Other park names will be

considered only if one of the above criteria does not provide a name suitable for the park. The Commission must submit at least two names to the City Council for consideration and final name selection.

The park is not part of a school.

The two underlying parcels of the mini-park area were acquired by the City from the Smith and Waller families in 1963. Staff reviewed this information with the Mountain View Historical Society, but it was determined that there are no historical events or figures related to this location.

At a community meeting held on the park design on July 21, 2014, staff discussed the park name with the residents in attendance.

The park is located on the corner of Park Drive and Mountain View Avenue. Using these adjoining streets for park names results in "Park Park" or "Mountain View Park." Neither of these names seemed to staff or the residents to provide enough specific identity for the mini-park.

After discussion at the community meeting, staff proposes the following mini-park name options for the Commission's consideration:

Proposed Name Significance to the Park Property

McKelvey Park Park has been known as McKelvey Park since the 1950s.

McKelvey Playground Community members thought this was a good way to

distinguish the mini-park from the ballfields.

Permanente Park The mini-park is coming about because of Permanente Creek

and the park is planned to have a creek theme.

Staff will forward the Commission's recommendation to the City Council for approval of a park name.

# **PUBLIC NOTICING**

In addition to the standard agenda posting, the residents and property owners in the adjoining neighborhoods and those on the list for previous meetings related to the Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project (approximately 1,200 notices) received notice of the Commission meeting. A notice was also posted on the City's website.

JAS/8/PWK 912-09-10-14M-E

Attachments: 1. City Council Policy K-17, "Naming of City Parks and Other City Facilities"

2. Proposed Site Plan for McKelvey Park

cc: PWD, CSD, PCE – Au, SAA – Kiner

#### CITY COUNCIL POLICY

# SUBJECT: NAMING OF CITY PARKS AND OTHER CITY FACILITIES NO.: K-17

# <u>PURPOSE</u>:

To establish criteria and procedures relating to the naming of City parks and other City facilities.

# POLICY:

- 1. Naming of City parks and recreation facilities.
  - a. The following criteria shall be used in determining park or recreation facility names to be submitted to the City Council for consideration:
    - (1) A City park or recreation facility may be named for the school on which it is located or street it is adjacent to.
    - (2) City parks or recreation facilities may be named for a historical figure or local landmark. The historical figure must be deceased for a minimum of five years.
    - (3) City parks and recreation facilities may be named in conformance with the City Council Sponsorship Policy.
    - (4) Other park or recreation facility names will be considered only if the naming criteria listed above do not provide a name suitable for a park or recreation facility.
  - b. The process for naming a City park or recreation facility shall be:
    - (1) When a new park or recreation facility is constructed in the City, the Parks and Recreation Commission will submit at least two names developed under the criteria listed in Paragraph a above to the City Council for consideration.
    - (2) The City Council shall evaluate the merit of each suggested park or recreation facility name according to the criteria listed above. The City Council shall be responsible for the final approval of the name of all City parks and recreation facilities.

# SUBJECT: NAMING OF CITY PARKS AND OTHER CITY FACILITIES NO.: K-17

- 2. Naming of a City building, structure, room, or other nonpark or recreation facility in memoriam.
  - a. All memorial-naming requests must be submitted in writing to the City Council Procedures Committee. The Committee shall evaluate the merit of each request according to the criteria listed in Paragraphs b and c below and provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding the approval or denial of the request. The City Council shall be responsible for the final approval or denial of the request.
  - b. In order for a City building, structure, room, or other nonpark or recreation facility to be named in memoriam, the person or persons must be deceased for a minimum of five years.
  - c. The following criteria shall be used in evaluating the merit of each memorialnaming request:
    - (1) The person or persons being memorialized died in the line of duty serving the City of Mountain View or the United States of America.
    - (2) The person or persons being memorialized made extraordinary, lasting, and significant contributions to the Mountain View community.
    - (3) The person or persons being memorialized died while performing a heroic act (e.g., saving the life of another person).
    - (4) The person or persons being memorialized made a significant donation to the City, resulting in the acquisition of property, buildings, etc.

Satisfying one or more of the eligibility criteria listed above does not assure City Council approval of a memorial request.

3. Other naming requests for City buildings, structures, rooms, or other recreation facilities may be considered in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy.

# CITY COUNCIL POLICY

# SUBJECT: NAMING OF CITY PARKS AND OTHER CITY FACILITIES NO.: K-17

4. Other naming requests for City buildings, structures, rooms, or other recreation facilities that are not addressed in this policy may be considered and acted on by the City Council at its sole discretion.

Revised: March 4, 2014, Resolution No. 17840 Revised: May 27, 2003, Resolution No. 16804

Effective Date: December 12, 2000, Resolution No. 16557

LF/6/CNLPOL K17-601CP

# **Attachment 2**





**McKelvey Park Layout** 

July 22, 2014 McKelvey Mini Park

# **MEMORANDUM**

Community Services Department

DATE: September 10, 2014

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Rochelle Kiner, Senior Administrative Analyst

J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director

SUBJECT: Draft of the 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan

# **RECOMMENDATION**

Review and recommend the City Council approve the draft 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Parks and Open Space Plan (Plan) represents a review of open space needs within the community and within each neighborhood Planning Area. The Plan offers both a long-range vision and an evaluation of current needs based on new development and future parks and open space projects. The Plan also prioritizes Planning areas that are most in need of additional open space. The last update of the Plan was adopted by the City Council on June 24, 2008. The current Plan revision is a periodic update and intended to ensure the Plan remains relevant and responsive to the changing needs of the community. Staff anticipates a more comprehensive review of the Plan in the next five years, estimated in 2018/2019.

The Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) has held two public hearings on the Prioritized Recommendations on May 8, 2013 and on January 15, 2014. The Commission also held joint meetings with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (B/PAC) and the City Council on March 12, 2014 and on April 22, 2014, respectively, to discuss the Commission's Plan recommendations. In total, this will be the 14th meeting the Commission has held regarding Plan updates and recommendations.

# **ANALYSIS**

While the City has an outstanding park and recreation system, its parks and open space needs have increased in response to population growth, more areas of the City zoned for residential use, higher residential density, and availability of open space resources within a safe walking distance. The City continues to search for land to develop parks in areas most in need of additional open space and to develop trail systems for greater pedestrian and bicycle mobility. However, with 98 percent of the City's available land already developed, new park land will most likely be as part of a redevelopment project or the purchase of residential lots, such as the property at 771 North Rengstorff Avenue or Mariposa and Del Medio Parks, which combined two adjacent properties.

Since the last Plan update, the City has added the following parks, trail extensions, and recreation facilities to serve the recreational needs of its residents:

# New Parks, Trail Extensions, and Recreation Facilities:

### Parks:

- Mariposa Park (0.61 acre)
- Del Medio Park (0.38 acre)
- 771 North Rengstorff Avenue Park (1.22 acres) (purchased to be developed)

## Trails:

### Stevens Creek Trail

- El Camino Real to Sleeper Avenue 0.52 mile
- Sleeper Avenue to Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way 0.30 mile

### Permanente Creek Trail

- Highway 101 to Old Middlefield Way 0.14 mile
- Old Middlefield Way to Rock Street 0.13 mile
- Old Middlefield Way/Highway 101 Grade Separation

### Bay Trail

Improved access and signage of the Bay Trail to the Sunnyvale Baylands

# Facilities:

- "The View" Teen Center (estimated completion date in November 2014)
- Bubb Park Restroom

- Fitness Cluster at Rengstorff Park
- Renovation of the Skate Park at Rengstorff Park

Future Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Projects Approved by the City Council:

- Design of Fayette Area Park (estimated at 1.29 acres)
- Permanente Creek Trail, extension from Rock Street to West Middlefield Road
- Permanente Creek Trail, Amphitheatre Parkway Crossing, Construction
- 771 Rengstorff Avenue Park, Design
- Rengstorff Park Lighting Improvements
- Rengstorff Park Community Center Renovation, Design

# Future Identified CIP Projects:

- South Whisman Area Park, Design
- Permanente Creek Trail, extension from West Middlefield Road to McKelvey Park, Feasibility Study

# Public Input

Two public hearings have been held for community input on May 8, 2013 and January 15, 2014. Joint meetings have also been held with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee on March 12, 2014 and with the City Council on April 22, 2014. In summary, public comments focused primarily on the following topic areas:

- The need for additional parks;
- The need for additional garden space, such as urban gardens, demonstration gardens, and/or edible gardens;
- The possibility of developing a community garden at 771 North Rengstorff Avenue;
- The need for an east-west trail corridor;
- The need to preserve the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way;
- The need to improve connectivity between trail systems;
- The need for dog parks; and

• The need to extend the Stevens Creek Trail and create an access point to the approximately 20 acres of open space located east of Highway 85.

# Parks and Open Space Plan

Staff has updated the draft Parks and Open Space Plan (Attachment 1) based on the Commission's Prioritized Recommendations and updated demographics, park acreage, and new and proposed CIP projects. The following is a list of Plan highlights:

- Total City-wide acreage of open space per 1,000 residents decreased from 13.51 acres to 13.35 acres.
- Acreage of open space per 1,000 residents, excluding the North Bayshore Planning Area, decreased slightly from 2.61 acres to 2.58 acres.
- The City added a total of 20.81 acres of open space since the last Plan update, which includes three mini-parks and the acreage associated with the recent extensions of the Stevens Creek Trail.
- Three new mini-parks have been added (one undeveloped) and trail extensions have been completed on the Permanente Creek Trail to Rock Street and the Stevens Creek Trail to Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way.
- The Open Space Needs Analysis (Attachment 1, Appendix 7) resulting in the ranking of Planning Areas based on the need for additional open space remains unchanged from the 2008 Plan update.
- There are an estimated 2,844 potential future housing units that are in the Community Development Department pipeline, primarily in the San Antonio and the Whisman Planning Areas.
- The City Council has approved the commitment of approximately \$31 million in Park Land Dedication Funds to park-related projects over the last five years.

# **NEXT STEPS**

The final draft of the Park and Open Space Plan will be presented to the City Council for approval on October 28, 2014.

# **PUBLIC NOTICING**

Agenda posting and notification sent to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and interested parties.

RK/8/CSD 240-09-10-14M-E

Attachment: 1. Draft 2014 Parks and Open Space Plan

# 2014 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

# MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL

Christopher R. Clark, Mayor John McAlister, Vice Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga, Councilmember Ronit Bryant, Councilmember John M. Inks, Councilmember R. Michael Kasperzak, Jr., Councilmember Jac Siegel, Councilmember

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Helen Wolter, Chair Katherine Naegele, Vice Chair Thida Cornes, Commissioner Roger Burney, Commissioner Jonathan Herbach, Commissioner Paul Donahue, Past Commissioner

# COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director Bruce Hurlburt, Parks and Open Space Manager Rochelle Kiner, Senior Administrative Analyst

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

"Parks, open space and natural areas benefit human health and the environment through opportunities for physical exercise and access to nature for people, and habitats for plants and animals."

Mountain View 2030 General Plan

Welcome to the City of Mountain View's Parks and Open Space Plan (Plan). This 2014 version of the Plan represents the sixth update since the first Plan was adopted in 1992.

The Plan represents a comprehensive review of open space needs for the City of Mountain View. The Plan offers a long-range vision intended to guide decisions made to advance park and open space resources, as well as environmental conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people who live and work in the City of Mountain View.

The Plan incorporates a detailed evaluation of current needs in the City and its neighborhoods and prioritizes recommendations for the acquisition, improvement and preservation of parks and open space. The Plan is intended to be flexible so that projects may be implemented as opportunities arise.

The current Plan revision is a periodic update and intended to ensure that the Plan remains relevant and responsive to the changing needs of the community. It is recommended that future updates of this Plan occur every five years with the next Plan update being a more comprehensive review.

## Introduction

Mountain View is a small and compact city, about 12 square miles in size, with a population in 2013 of 76,260. Approximately 43% of the City's acreage is in residential use, 25% is commercial/industrial, 30% is other uses such as parks, schools and agriculture, and 2% is vacant.

There are close to 1,000 acres of park and open space land in Mountain View, divided among 39 park sites that include; 18 mini-parks (1 undeveloped¹), 13 neighborhood/school parks, 5 neighborhood parks not associated with school sites, 2 community parks and 1 regional park (see Appendix 1). as indicated in the Parks summary table below. Although categorized as such, they are, collectively, all neighborhood and community parks within the meaning of the California Government Code.

1. Includes 1 - undeveloped 1.22 acre park site at 771 N. Rengstorff Ave.

Park Type	Open Space Acres
Mini-Parks	14.25
Neighborhood Parks - City-owned	47.79
Neighborhood Parks - School District Owned	84.83
Community Parks	49.48
Regional Parks and Open Space (Including Stevens Creek Trail)	796.72
TOTAL City Parks	993.07

While the City has an outstanding park and recreation system, its park and open space needs are changing, and will continue to do so in response to changing circumstances (in demographics, economic cycles, etc.). This Plan aims to ensure that the community can enjoy park and open space resources that are evenly distributed throughout the City.

# **City-wide Assessment**

An overall assessment of City-wide needs is presented in the Plan and addresses such issues as growth trends, existing parks and open space, joint school/park sites, private and public open space not owned by the City and access to parks and open space. Demographic information presented is based on the most recent Census Data in 2010. An analysis of demographic, land use, and open space acres can be found in Appendix 2.

School sites are an important part of the City's park system. There are many Cityowned mini-parks, but few larger neighborhood parks. School sites provide the large areas (typically 5 acres or more) needed for athletic activities such as baseball, softball, football, and soccer (43% of the City's total urban park and open space resources are located at School District-owned sites). Mountain View has a longstanding policy of developing cooperative agreements with the school districts to allow use of school open space as neighborhood parks.

However, the ability of the City to ensure that the open space areas owned by school districts remain available is somewhat limited as schools have final jurisdiction over placement of portables and other needs that may encroach onto open space.

A focus of the Plan is on improving access to existing parks and open space. The Plan advocates looking for ways to provide safe and convenient access to all parks, through the use of the City's trail system, traffic controls, or other methods. Improved access connects neighborhoods and reduces the need for the acquisition of additional open space.

As discussed in the Plan, streets with high volumes of traffic represent barriers for residents to access parks and open space on foot. Increasing traffic on Mountain View streets also contributes to the need for open spaces to provide relief from noise and air pollution, and safe places for children to play.

Land use information for this plan was provided by the Community Development Department based on the General Plan Land Use and Design Map and the City's Geographical Information System (GIS). There are some variations in size of each Planning Area as compared to the 2008 and 2001 Plan which reflects additional land development and better GIS mapping technology. However, the change to the land use designations and GIS system did not impact the overall ranking of the planning areas. Planning areas that had the highest in overall need scores in 2001 and 2008 are also ranked the highest in 2014 (San Antonio, Rengstorff, and Sylvan-Dale). Planning areas that ranked the lowest in overall need scores in 2001 and 2008 are also ranked the lowest in 2014 (Grant and Miramonte).

# **Definition of Open Space**

The 2008 Plan defined open space as parkland that does not have enclosed, single-use recreational facilities or parking lots built over the land. The parkland could be developed, as in a park, or in a natural state. This definition of open space excludes parking lots and most recreational facilities (i.e., Community Center, Senior Center, Rengstorff Pool, Eagle Pool, Skate Park and tennis courts) from the overall measurement of open space. That same definition applies to the designation of open space in the 2014 Plan.

# **Planning Area Assessments**

To provide a more in-depth analysis of the parks and open space needs of Mountain View's various neighborhoods, this Plan divides the City into ten "Planning Areas." The planning areas are based on census tract boundaries to facilitate the use of available demographic data. The park and open space needs of each area were assessed based on a variety of factors, including:

- Improvements completed since the adoption of the prior Plan;
- Existing park and open space resources in and adjacent to the planning area;
- City demographics;
- Application of Acquisition and Improvement criteria (Appendix 3);
- Access to existing parks and open space; and
- Community, City Council and Advisory Body input; including public outreach meetings, Parks and Recreation Commission meetings, a joint meeting with the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board, and a study session with the City Council.

The Acquisition and Improvement criteria factor heavily into the assessment. The criteria evaluate:

- Whether the area is primarily residential or commercial/industrial in nature;
- Residential density of the area;
- Amount of multi-family housing;

- Availability of open space within a safe and comfortable walking distance of residential areas (generally defined as no more than one-half mile); and,
- Current amount of open space in the area.

To evaluate the last criterion—amount of open space in the area—the Plan has adopted a standard of providing a minimum of 3 acres of open space per 1,000 persons living in the City. This standard is based on the provisions of the City's Park Land Dedication Ordinance. When regional open space is included, the City provides 13.35 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. When the North Bayshore Planning Area, which includes all of the City's regional open space, is excluded from the calculation, the City is slightly below the standard with 2.58 acres per 1,000 residents. Two planning areas exceed the standard (Grant and Miramonte) while the other seven planning areas are below the standard. These seven areas have the greatest need for additional open space.

Based on the results of the assessments, the planning areas were ranked by order of need. A 1 through 10 ranking was developed for each criterion, which produced a numerical "need score" when applied to each planning area. The higher the score, the higher the need for open space. The table below illustrates the need score for each of the 10 planning areas. The San Antonio Planning Area has the highest need for open space and the Grant Planning Area the least need. The overall ranking of planning areas based on need remains the same as in the 2001 and 2008 Plan.

Planning Area	Need Score
San Antonio Sylvan-Dale Rengstorff Stierlin Central Thompson Whisman Miramonte Grant	45 35 34 31 27 23 22 16 13

# **Trail Systems**

Urban trails are defined as continuous open space corridors for walking, biking, hiking, offering scenic views, wildlife habitat, commute alternatives, and connections to neighborhoods, transit centers and employment areas. Trails offer recreational opportunities and are important to the continued improvement of Mountain View's park and open space resources. When individual trails and other pedestrian and bicycle routes interconnect, the benefits of a trail system spread over a broader area.

Five major trail systems are addressed in detail in this Plan:

Stevens Creek

- Hetch-Hetchy
- Permanente Creek
- Bay Regional
- Whisman Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Trail

#### Recommendations

The recommendations in this Plan are primarily intended to ensure that parks and open space in Mountain View meet the need of a growing population and access to these resources are evenly distributed throughout community.

There are three types of recommendations presented in this Plan:

- City-wide recommendations, addressing the City's overall approach to parks and open space;
- Planning Area recommendations; and,
- Trail Systems recommendations.

The Plan's recommendations are grouped into five broad categories:

- Increase Open Space
- Improve Existing Open Space
- Preserve Existing Open Space
- Provide Access to Open Space
- Develop Trail Systems

Each of these categories is of equal importance in fulfilling the open space needs of the community. Within each of these categories, more detailed recommendations are ranked in order of need for additional open space (Chapter 5).

# I. INTRODUCTION

"Nature always wears the colors of the spirit." Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) Author, minister, activist

## CITY PROFILE

**Location:** Mountain View is located in the State of California at the southern end of the San Francisco peninsula, where the peninsula joins Santa Clara Valley. The City is approximately 36 miles southeast of the City of San Francisco and 15 miles northwest of the City of San Jose.

**Size:** Mountain View is small and compact, approximately 12.2 square miles in size.

**Population:** 76,260 (2013).

**Land Use:** Approximately 43% of the City's land use is residential, 25% is commercial/industrial, 30% is other uses such as parks, school and agriculture and 2% is vacant.

**Employment:** More people work in Mountain View than live here. Many technology companies are located in Mountain View, including Google, Microsoft, Intuit and Symantec. Health care and services make up the next largest category of City employment.

# **About This Plan**

This Parks and Open Space Plan (Plan) represents a comprehensive review of open space needs for the City of Mountain View. It offers both a long-range vision and an evaluation of current needs.

The first version of this Plan (originally the "Open Space Vision Statement") was adopted in 1992. The Vision Statement was the result of a study of long-term open space needs begun by the Parks and Recreation Commission in 1987. That study contained valuable data and resource material, but it lacked conclusive and realistic recommendations regarding open space priorities in Mountain View. The Parks and Open Space Plan was created to make such recommendations. When the first Plan was developed it was envisioned to have several applications which still hold true today.

The Plan is intended to serve as:

- A tool for implementing the City's General Plan;
- A prioritized reference document for the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and,
- A support document for future land use studies.

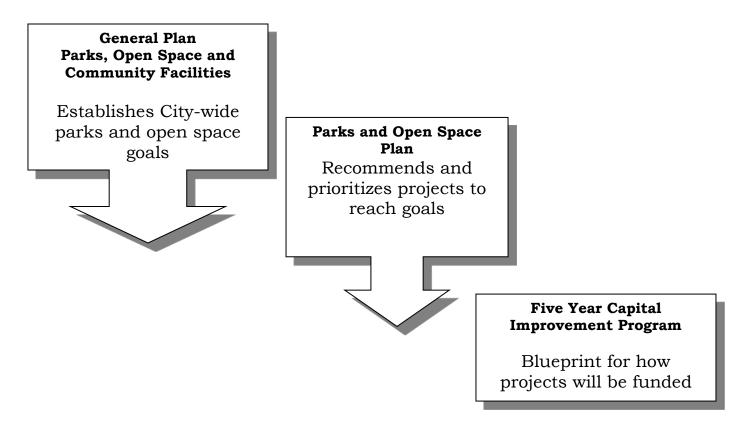
The relationship of this Plan to the General Plan and the Capital Improvement Program is discussed in detail in the next section.

The Plan is intentionally flexible so that actions may be implemented as opportunities arise. Since its inception, the Plan has been updated six times. The current Plan revision is a periodic update and intended to ensure that the Plan remains relevant and responsive to the changing needs of the community. It is recommended that future updates of this Plan occur every five years with the next Plan update being a more comprehensive review.

## RELATIONSHIP TO THE GENERAL PLAN

The Mountain View General Plan is a comprehensive and long-range statement of the City's development and preservation policies. It represents an agreement among the residents of Mountain View on basic community values, ideals and aspirations to govern a shared environment. The General Plan is long range; it looks 10, 15 and 20 years into the future, allowing Mountain View to focus on the big picture and the broad trends that shape it. The General Plan was adopted in 2012 and serves as the City's framework for future decisions.

Parks and open space issues are addressed in the Parks, Open Space and Community Facilities Chapter within the General Plan. The Parks, Open Space and Community Facilities Chapter addresses acquisition, distribution, design and protection of parks, open space and park facilities over the long term. The General Plan establishes overall goals, policies and actions regarding open space issues. The Parks and Open Space Plan serves as a tool to implement the goals and policies of the General Plan by



providing a reasoned prioritization for accomplishing many of the Parks and Open Space and Community Facilities Chapter goals. Whereas the General Plan presents a 20-year view of park and open space needs, the Parks and Open Space Plan is kept current and flexible through more frequent updates. Eight goals developed in the General Plan are especially embodied in this Parks and Open Space Plan:

- An expanded and enhanced park and open space system;
- Parks and public facilities equitably distributed throughout the community and accessible to residents and employees;
- Open space areas with natural characteristics that are protected and sustained;
- Parks and public facilities that are well designed and integrated with the surrounding neighborhood;
- Cooperation between the City and local school districts to meet shared open space, recreation and education needs;
- An integrated system of multi-use trails connecting to key local and regional destinations and amenities;
- A healthy urban forest and sustainable landscaping throughout the City; and
- Edible landscaping that provides food for people, foraging opportunities for wildlife and community gardens for the health and enjoyment of the community

Similar to the General Plan, the Parks and Open Space Plan is in alignment with the goals of the Pedestrian Master Plan. The City recently developed a Recreation Plan to address long-term goals for the provision of recreation services and facilities. The Recreation Plan serves as a companion document to the Parks and Open Space Plan.

# RELATIONSHIP TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) functions as a blueprint for the City's plans to add, upgrade and expand City facilities and infrastructure. A five-year CIP is prepared and adopted by the City Council every year. Funding is provided at the time of adoption for the first year's projects. Just as the Parks and Open Space Plan serves to implement the goals of the General Plan, the CIP serves as a tool to implement the recommendations of the Parks and Open Space Plan. Most recommendations of the Parks and Open Space Plan (e.g., open space acquisition, trail development) must be included at some point in the CIP and funded in order to become a reality.

The Parks and Open Space Plan is intended to serve as a prioritized reference document to determine which projects should be included in the CIP and when.

## **FUNDING SOURCES**

Financing for the acquisition and development of parks and open space is approved by the City Council during the annual budget process. The following funding sources are generally used:

#### Park Land Dedication In-Lieu Fees

New residential projects are required by the City's Park Land Dedication Ordinance (Chapter 41 of the Municipal Code) to dedicate park land in the amount of 3 acres per 1,000 residents. Since it is not feasible for many smaller residential projects to dedicate land, an equivalent or "in-lieu" fee is collected instead. The fees are then used for the purchase, development and/or improvement of park and recreational facilities located in or near the neighborhood where the new development is located. In lieu fees can also be used to fund projects that provide a community-wide asset. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the City Council how these fees should be applied to park and open space projects.

The amount collected from Park Land Dedication In-Lieu fees (including interest earned on the fund) in the past ten years is shown below:

Fiscal Year	Fees Collected
2004-05	\$1,144,991
2005-06	\$5,753,546
2006-07	\$3,777,928
2007-08	\$2,543,530
2008-09	\$1,224,431
2009-10	\$674,325
2010-11	\$1,488,810
2011-12	\$6,369,583
2012-13	\$13,637,941
2013-14	\$12,909,181
TOTAL	\$49,524,266

The Table in Appendix 4 lists the various projects that have been funded partially or in full by these in-lieu fees.

Capital Improvement Plan Reserve and Construction Conveyance Tax Fund Most capital improvement projects of a general nature are funded from either the Capital Improvement Plan Reserve or the Construction Conveyance Tax Fund, including City facilities, infrastructure and park and recreation projects. The amount of the fund varies from year to year, depending on revenues and actual project costs. Many projects compete for this funding on a yearly basis through the City's Capital Improvement Plan project budget process.

## **Shoreline Regional Community Fund**

This fund was created in 1969 for the development and support of the Shoreline Regional Park and the surrounding North Bayshore Area. The use of the fund is limited to projects located in the North Bayshore Area of the City, such as those in Shoreline at Mountain View Park, Charleston Park, Stevens Creek Trail and other similar open space areas. As with the Capital Improvement Plan Reserve, the amount of this fund varies from year to year.

#### Grants

Various Federal, State and County grants are available to fund park projects. In the past, the City has received grant funding for several park projects, including the Stevens Creek Trail, Permanente Creek Trail, the Bay Trail, the preschool tot lot at Rengstorff Park and the restroom facility at Bubb Park. In 2014, the City was approved to receive \$350,000 from the Community Development Block Grant fund and \$305,225 from the Housing Related Park Program fund for a total of \$655,225 towards the Rengstorff Park lighting improvement project. The City has several grant applications pending for park, trail and recreation projects and will continue to look for grant opportunities to fund the acquisition, development and improvement of the City's parks and recreation facilities.

## **Land Sales Fund**

Occasionally, the City will sell surplus parcels of land. The use of the proceeds from these sales is at the discretion of the City Council. However, in the past, some of the funds have been targeted for the acquisition of open space.

## ORGANIZATION OF PLAN

- Chapter I of the Plan is this Introduction.
- Chapter II contains the Parks and Open Space Plan Vision Statement. Created by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Vision Statement sets out the City's primary goals for future development of parks and open space in Mountain View.
- Chapter III presents a City-wide assessment of existing parks and open space facilities
  and makes recommendations for the future. The City-wide assessment focuses on issues
  that are of general concern to all areas and demographic groups in the community.
- Chapter IV summarizes and prioritizes the recommendations discussed throughout the Plan.
- Chapter V analyzes the specific park and open space issues of each of the City's 10 planning areas. This Chapter provides a review of open space needs and makes recommendations for the future.
- Chapter VI provides a detailed discussion of the development of Mountain View's trail systems, including Stevens Creek Trail, Hetch-Hetchy, Bay Trail, Permanente Creek and Whisman Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Trail.
- Chapter VII lists accomplishments since the last Parks and Open Space Plan was adopted in June 2008.
- The Appendices include supplementary information.

# II. VISION STATEMENT

"Treat the earth well...we do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

Mountain View enjoys a wide diversity of open space and park resources, ranging from small mini-parks to the many acres of Shoreline Regional Park. However, as population and density, economic cycles, land acquisition opportunities and levels of environmental awareness change, the City will face new challenges and opportunities. Mountain View's approach to park and open space resource management is to continue to engage the public fully in land-use decisions and to enhance environmental stewardship to protect natural resources in these changing circumstances.

This Plan aims to ensure that open space and recreational opportunities are evenly available throughout the community. The Plan also seeks to encourage linkages to open space in adjacent communities. To achieve these goals, the Plan offers a long-term vision to guide decisions related to park and open space resources in the community. Establishing this vision is important in order to ensure the Plan's recommendations lead to further improvement of the good quality of life already experienced by Mountain View residents.

The long-term vision, as expressed on the following page, articulates the ultimate destination of this Plan. It serves as a road map, providing direction for the development of the Plan's goals and recommendations.

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN VISION STATEMENT

 Mountain View will increase park and open space resources, using creative and innovative means to achieve this goal.

The preservation, maintenance and acquisition of parks and open space are priorities for Mountain View, as reflected in the many recommendations of this Plan. Today, Mountain View enjoys a wide variety of open space and park resources. However, with continued higher-density development, the City needs more open space and parks. Since the City is almost completely built out, new and different approaches may be necessary to meet community needs.

 Mountain View will ensure that open space and recreational opportunities are evenly distributed throughout the community and equally accessible to residents.

The park and open space resources available in Mountain View today are not evenly distributed throughout the City. Thus, while Mountain View as a whole needs additional parks and open space, the need for open space is higher in some neighborhoods than in others.

 Mountain View will increase and improve access to both existing and planned parks and open space.

Improving access to park and open space resources, through a well connected trail system and through smaller, more localized improvements, will relieve some need for new facilities.

• Mountain View will strive to be a City with a visually green environment.

The protection and enrichment of the urban forest is of great importance to the well being of the City's residents. All "green" areas, large or small (such as median and parking lot trees and vegetation) contribute to the feeling of an open, livable city and should be increased, improved and maintained.

 Mountain View is not an island; regional open space possibilities are important and will be considered and supported.

The development of and connection to open space in other communities can greatly improve Mountain View's park and open space system and benefit Mountain View's residents. Mountain View should work with other governmental bodies in our region to acquire, develop and support regional open space resources.

• Mountain View will involve and empower the community in the planning and implementation of programs related to parks and open space.

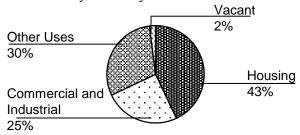
Community involvement in the updating of the Parks and Open Space Plan is especially needed to ensure that the public's wishes and needs are served.

# III. CITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world." John Muir (1838-1914) Explorer, naturalist, conservationist

## CITY LAND USE AND GROWTH TRENDS

At the time of its incorporation in 1902, Mountain View was an agricultural community, with a small business and residential core surrounded by farms and orchards. During the 1950s and 1960s, the City experienced a boom, growing from a population of 10,000 in 1950 to almost 50,000 in 1965. This period saw the transformation of the City from an agricultural community to a city with homes,



commerce and industry. This rapid growth transformed Mountain View into a city with complete services and new neighborhoods, parks, and commercial and industrial districts. As expansion took place, different areas of the City began to take shape, each with a unique character. These included quiet, family-oriented ranch-style neighborhoods, auto-oriented commercial uses along El Camino Real, and large industrial areas.

With the Silicon Valley high-tech boom, the City has become a prime location for technology companies, large (Google, Intuit, LinkedIn and Microsoft) and small. As a result, the City's North Bayshore business park area experienced a great deal of development beginning in the late 1980s through the present day. In addition, with a shortage of vacant land, residential development has shifted from large apartment complexes and large-lot, single-family homes to higher-density developments such as rowhouses and small-lot, single-family residences. Some commercial areas are being rezoned to include a mix of residential, commercial, and open space uses allowing for greater land-use efficiency in a City that has limited available open space.

Mountain View, which is 7,825 acres in size (including roads and streets), is almost fully built out with little vacant land left. As of 2013, about 43% of the land in the City was used for housing, 25% for commercial and industrial uses, and 30% for other uses such as parks, schools and agriculture, leaving approximately 2% vacant<sup>1</sup>. The overall residential density in Mountain View is 10 persons per acre (based on a 2013 population of 76,260 persons). When just residentially zoned land is considered, density rises to 20 persons per acre. The residential density of Mountain View's 10 individual planning areas ranges from a low of 11 persons

per residential acre in the Grant Planning Area to a high of 46 in the San Antonio Planning Area with 22 in the North Bayshore Area (Appendix 2).

With 98% of the available land developed, most new residential developments in Mountain View will happen in one of two ways: existing buildings can be expanded or redeveloped, or land can be rezoned for residential purposes. The expansion or redevelopment of existing buildings, and several large rezoning projects, have resulted in the addition (or approved addition) of a significant number of new housing units in Mountain View. Examples include:

## **Expansion or Redevelopment Projects**

- 1958 Rock Street the City Council approved the development of 19 row homes, replacing 12 apartment units.
- 111 N. Rengstorff Avenue the City Council approved the development of 134 residential apartment units, replacing 50 existing units.

## **Rezoning Projects**

- 1720 El Camino Real West the former location of the Tropicana Lodge and Western Appliance Store was rezoned to allow development of a 162-unit residential apartment building.
- 2650 El Camino Real West the former San Antonio Motel was rezoned to allow development of a four-story, 193 unit residential apartment project.

As of January 2014, the California Department of Finance reported that the City of Mountain View had a total of 34,173 housing units. That is an increase of approximately 292 units that have been completed since the adoption of the City's General Plan in July of 2012. Housing development is continuing to grow and the majority of these new residential units are multi-family units such as duplexes, apartments, and condominiums. Future housing in Mountain View will be primarily multi-family building types. These building types support the community's vision for growth within a City with limited available land.

Summary of Existing and Projected Housing		
Existing Housing Units -2014	34,173	
Projected Units in Pipeline <sup>1</sup>	2,844	
Projected Total:	37,017	

Appendix 5 provides a breakdown of expected future growth by planning area.

<sup>1.</sup> Projected units indicate projects in the Community Development Department pipeline; potentially there could be more development projects.

All new residential growth contributes to the need to provide additional park and open space lands. Ideally, each new development project would provide parkland commensurate with the number of new housing units developed. However, this is not the case, as many smaller developments pay a fee in lieu of providing parkland. As noted earlier, these fees are used not only for parkland acquisition, but many other parks and open space improvements as well.

Based on a population of 74,391 as provided by the 2010 US Census Data, the City is in need of 30.85 acres of open space to meet the City's goal of 3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents, excluding the North Bayshore Planning Area (Appendix 2). As of 2013, the City's population grew to 76,260, an increase of 1,869 residents. Based on the new population data, the City is deficient in open space by 38.91 acres.

Additionally, many park improvement projects were funded through in-lieu fees during that time period, and some fees have been reserved to purchase additional park land as it becomes available. In November 2006, the Council updated the Park Land Dedication Fund Policy and established the following priority system for use of in-lieu fees:

- 1) Acquisition
- 2) Development
- 3) Rehabilitation

A list of Capital Improvement Program Projects funded with Park Land Dedication Funds is included as Appendix 4 totaling over \$30 million in funds committed to the acquisition, development and rehabilitation of open space and recreation facilities.

## EXISTING PARKS AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

Mountain View has close to 1,000 acres of park and open space land, totaling 13% of the City, divided among 39 park sites that include; 18 mini-parks (1 undeveloped¹), 13 neighborhood/school parks, 5 neighborhood parks not associated with school sites, 2 community parks and 1 regional park (see Appendix 6). Although categorized as such, they are, collectively, all neighborhood and community parks within the meaning of the California Government Code.

Park Type	<b>Open Space Acres</b>	
Mini-Parks <sup>1</sup>	14.25	
Neighborhood Parks - City-owned	47.79	
Neighborhood Parks - School District Owned	84.83	
Community Parks	49.48	
Regional Parks and Open Space (Including Stevens Creek Trail)	796.72	
TOTAL City Parks	993.07	

In addition, the City has a tremendous resource in the Stevens Creek Trail, providing a 5.14 mile north/south connection through the City. The Hetch-Hetchy Trail, generally running through the City in an east-west direction, has been completed from the Stevens Creek Trail to Whisman Road. The trail provides 0.4 mile off-street bicycle and pedestrian access. In the future, the Hetch-Hetchy Trail may offer further opportunities to connect neighborhoods with trail systems.

The City's regional park facility, Shoreline at Mountain View, is a 753-acre open space and wildlife preserve consisting of wetlands, marshes, upland habitats, a golf course, sailing lake, the historic Rengstorff House and two adjacent open space areas, Crittenden Hill and Vista Slope. For a list of all City parks and trails, see Appendix 6. A general description of each of the different park types can be found in Appendix 7.

Additional open space resources include Deer Hollow Farm, Cuesta Annex, the Senior Garden and the Willowgate Community Garden. Deer Hollow Farm, operated by the City of Mountain View and located in the hills above Los Altos, is a 10-acre working farm serving as a nature preserve and environmental education center. The Willowgate Community Garden is located on a one-acre parcel in the Stierlin Planning Area. Its 84 garden plots are leased to Mountain View residents for one year at a time. The Senior Garden is located on a 0.41 acre piece of the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way at the corner of Escuela Avenue and Crisanto Avenue in the San Antonio Planning Area and provides 63 garden plots to seniors within the community.

Other recreational facilities located in Mountain View include a Community Center, Senior Center, two sports centers, two swimming pools, a golf course, a tennis center, and a new Teen Center. The new Teen Center, named "the View", is currently under construction and anticipated to open in November 2014.

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT**

Mountain View prides itself on being well served with open space, especially with its two regional assets, Shoreline at Mountain View and the Stevens Creek Trail.

This Plan attempts to objectively assess park and open space needs in the City, specifically in the nine planning areas outside of the North Bayshore Area. A useful starting point is the City's Park Land Dedication Ordinance, which requires developers to dedicate (or pay equivalent fees for) at least 3 acres of park land for each 1,000 residents in a new development. The 2008 update of the Parks and Open Space Plan established this formula of 3 acres per 1,000 residents as a reasonable standard of acceptable open space. (For further discussion, see Appendix 8.)

Based on the number of mini-, neighborhood, school and community parks, and a 2010 population of 74,391 (based on the 2010 Census Data), Mountain View is slightly below the open space standard with 2.58 acres per 1,000 residents (Appendix 2). The open space calculation does not include recreational facilities and parking lots that were excluded as of the 2008 Plan update. When the North Bayshore Planning Area is factored in, the ratio rises to 13.35 acres per 1,000 residents, well in excess of the City's standard.

The Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) believes that the City would benefit from the addition of a third community park. Community parks are defined in the Plan as:

"Areas 15 – 50 acres in size which serve the entire city and are of diverse environmental quality and may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. These areas may also be of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting and picnicking or any combination of the above." Appendix 7

Both community parks in Mountain View (Cuesta and Rengstorff) are located south of Central Expressway. The Commission recommends acquisition of land for another community park in the area north of Central Expressway. Additionally, the Plan acknowledges that open space is not evenly distributed throughout the City. To provide an in-depth understanding of the open space resources and needs in Mountain View, this Plan analyzes each of the City's 10 planning areas using a number of criteria. These assessments are presented in a later section of the Plan.

## ISSUES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

### Joint School/Park Sites

School sites are an important part of the City's open space resources. Currently, the City has a large supply of mini-parks, but relatively few larger neighborhood parks. Also, there is almost no remaining vacant land, and few, if any opportunities to acquire large open space areas the size of a neighborhood park. The school sites provide the large open space areas (typically 5 acres or more) needed for athletic activities such as baseball, softball and soccer.

Mountain View has a longstanding policy (General Plan, Parks, Open Space and Community Facilities Goal POS-5) of developing cooperative agreements with the school districts to allow use of the schools as neighborhood parks. These agreements allow for the joint use of 10 school sites for park and recreation

purposes (the City owns adjacent park land at 5 of the school sites). In exchange for after-school-hour use of the play fields, the City maintains the open space area at all schools except Springer Elementary (part of the Los Altos School District) and Mountain View High School.

The City and the Mountain View Whisman School District have cooperated to build an athletic field complex on top of an 8-million gallon reservoir at Graham Middle School winning an Award for Excellence in Public Works in 2008. In exchange for the right to build a buried reservoir, the City agreed to construct and maintain new athletic fields as a shared use facility for students during the day and for the community after school hours. The athletic field complex has a track, field space for soccer, football, and baseball, lights, and artificial turf allowing all season play. The City is also in discussions with the District on the construction of new athletic fields at Crittenden Middle School.

Almost half (43%) of the City's total park and open space resources (excluding Shoreline regional facilities) are located at school district-owned sites. The school district lands account for 64% of the City's neighborhood park area. In many cases, the City has made significant economic investments in park and playground improvements at the school sites.

In terms of the open space standard discussed above in the Overall Assessment section, if school open space lands are deducted from the City's open space inventory, the ratio of open space to residents drops from 2.58 acres per 1,000 residents (excluding the North Bayshore Planning Area) to 1.43 acres per 1,000 residents. As the districts look for different ways to handle fluctuating enrollments, City open space resources could be left in an uncertain position.

The City's ability to ensure that the open space areas owned by the school districts remain available is somewhat limited as the schools have final jurisdiction over placement of portables and other needs that may encroach on the open space. However, the City can negotiate with the districts to maintain the existing open space areas.

The Preservation Criteria developed for this Plan are an important tool to help the Parks and Recreation Commission assess the impact of threatened or lost school site resources, and formulate recommendations to the City Council, if needed. School open space resources can also be lost to residents when schools are closed and grounds are sold. To mitigate the effects of such sales, the Naylor Act (a State law) allows cities to buy a portion of the open areas of surplus school district properties at 25 percent of market value. However, even at this discounted price, the actual acquisition of school lands can be an economic challenge.

Should the loss of a park or open space area be threatened (e.g., the surplus of a school site), City action should be guided by the criteria developed in the 2008 Plan and included in this Plan update:

#### **Preservation Criteria**

• The impact the loss of open space will have on the City's current and future recreation programming.

- The City's investments, assets and development on the property (e.g., play equipment, tennis courts, irrigation systems, play fields, etc.).
- The quantity of other existing public and/or private open space/recreation facilities in the planning area.
- The impact of loss on Mountain View's overall park system.

## Other Private and Public Open Space

There are many forms of private open space areas throughout the City of Mountain View. Many multi-unit developments provide their residents with open space and recreational facilities such as swimming pools, large lawn areas, water features, community rooms and children's play areas. Some larger developments providing these types of amenities include The Village at San Antonio Center and the Crossings in the San Antonio Planning Area and Tripointe Homes in the Whisman Planning Area. While not included in the City's open space total, these private open space amenities contribute to the overall park and open space resources available to residents in the community.

Large parcels of land in the City that still remain an agricultural or open space use are another type of private open space in Mountain View. These types of properties, although held in private ownership, are valuable assets. They provide visual respite from the urban environment, represent the last remnants of the City's agricultural past and serve as a reminder of what the Santa Clara Valley once looked like.

Where possible, the City should support efforts by other agencies, private organizations or nonprofits to preserve agricultural lands if they become available. Some possible methods of preservation are long-term conservation easements, donations by property owners, partnerships with private or public agencies, formation of a nonprofit organization and partial acquisitions.

Much of what has been said about private open space in agricultural use is also true of open space lands in Mountain View that are owned by other public agencies. Examples of land owned by other agencies include:

- The Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way, which passes through the City in an east-west direction (City of San Francisco); and,
- Some lands adjacent to Stevens Creek and other waterways (Santa Clara Valley Water District).

These lands can play an important role as additional open space in the City and should be preserved through cooperation with the owning agencies. Full or partial acquisition, long-term easements and other similar mechanisms can all be employed to ensure these valuable open space areas are retained.

## Access to Parks and Open Space

A main focus of this Plan, as articulated in the Vision Statement, is to ensure that open space is evenly distributed throughout the community. As detailed later in

the Planning Area Assessments Chapter, certain criteria have been established to help evaluate where this goal is not being met. Typically, this evaluation has led to recommendations regarding additional acquisition of park and open space land in areas that were determined to be under-served.

One of the criteria evaluates whether residents are located within a safe and comfortable walking distance of a park. While the use of this criterion further helps to determine if land acquisition should be a priority in certain neighborhoods, it also introduces the concept of evaluating the accessibility of park for residents living within a half-mile radius.

Improving access to park sites can help relieve underserved areas, in addition to or in lieu of acquiring new park land. For example, Thaddeus mini-park is located along Middlefield Road in the Thompson Planning Area and residents located north of Middlefield Road must cross a major traffic barrier to access the park. Providing safe access to Thaddeus mini-park remains a project recommendation of the Commission.

Park access is, therefore, evaluated in each of the planning area assessments. In some cases, specific areas in need of improved access have been addressed. In other areas, the scope and time frame of this Plan did not allow a thorough examination of where access improvements are needed or the practicalities of providing such improvements. However, working to build and improve access to open space is one of the major recommendations of this Plan.

While the majority of areas and facilities within City parks are accessible to persons with disabilities, access will be a requirement of considerable importance when identifying areas in need of improvement and developing solutions. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that persons with disabilities not be discriminated against in regard to access to public facilities. The City has made improvements to playground equipment and continues to evaluate the accessibility of park facilities to meet the need of all residents in the community. In August 2014, the City installed a full body swing with a harness at Sierra Vista mini-park for children with physical special needs.

## **Trail Systems**

Trails and trail systems are important to the continued improvement of Mountain View's park and open space resources; accordingly the subject is discussed in much detail in a separate chapter later in this Plan. Even though a trail may at first seem to impact or affect only the immediate area around it, trails are important on a Citywide basis as well. It is the interconnecting of individual trails and other pedestrian and bicycle routes that expands the benefits of a trail system over a broader area. Therefore, the continued planning and development of trails and connectors should be considered an issue of City-wide importance. Focus should especially be given to providing access (through mini-trails and other connectors) to existing and planned trails, developing a City-wide network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways, and providing connection to regional resources when possible.

## **SUMMARY**

After years of growth and development, Mountain View is almost fully built out, with little vacant land left. As higher-density developments have come in over the past years, park and open space acreage has not kept up with the increase in number of residents. Acquisition of additional open space and its development for park use is a priority for Mountain View.

At the same time, it is clear that open space resources are not evenly distributed among the City's various neighborhoods. The City should focus on open space acquisition and park development in those areas most under-served in open space resources (as identified in Chapter 5).

The school districts are of central importance to the park and open space inventory. The City must work with the districts to build, maintain and improve joint use agreements for their open space resources. (See recommendations in Chapter 4 categorized as Preserve Existing Open Space.)

With limited vacant land left, the City needs to work with others (governmental agencies, private owners, businesses) to enable shared use of park and open space resources. Whatever remains of our agricultural past is especially important in this context.

While Mountain View needs to acquire and develop more parks and open space resources, an additional priority is to maximize the use of existing resources. To that end, the City must work to improve access to existing parks and open space from the City's various neighborhoods. (See recommendations in Chapter 4 categorized as Provide Access to Open Space.)

Finally, Mountain View must improve its system of pedestrian/bike trails to connect its neighborhoods to each other and to connect the City as a whole to regional parks and open space areas. (See recommendations in Chapter 4 categorized as Develop Trail Systems.)

# IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs." – California Parks and Recreation Society Vision Statement

## Introduction

This section of the Parks and Open Space Plan presents and prioritizes all of the recommendations that appear in this Plan:

- City-wide recommendations developed based on the analysis presented in the previous City-Wide Assessment Chapter;
- More specific recommendations made for each of the ten planning areas, presented in the following Planning Area Assessments Chapter; and,
- Recommendations for the City's trail systems, presented in the Trail Systems Chapter later in this Plan.

The purpose of the priority system is to establish a basis for determining which recommendations are most pressing and in what order they should be undertaken. The priority system is intended to be used as a guideline only. It is fully expected that some recommendations might be implemented out of priority order, dependent on current opportunities and circumstances. However, by establishing a system of priorities, the City can help ensure a logical approach to future decision-making.

In order to create a priority system, the Parks and Recreation Commission divided all recommendations into five major categories:

- Increase Open Space
- Improve Existing Open Space
- Preserve Existing Open Space
- Provide Access to Open Space
- Develop Trail Systems

PLANNING AREA	NEED SCORE
San Antonio	45
Sylvan-Dale	35
Rengstorff	34
Stierlin	31
Central	27
Thompson	23
Whisman	22
Miramonte	16
Grant	13

The Commission believes that these categories are of equal importance in fulfilling the open space needs of Mountain View, and, therefore, has not ranked these categories.

Within each of the categories, the Commission has formulated broad recommendations that reflect the goals presented in the Open Space Vision and address City-wide issues, including environmental conservation efforts. These recommendations are prioritized within each category.

Additionally, the Commission has spelled out specific, practical recommendations within each of the City-wide recommendations. These specific recommendations relate to the individual planning areas and are prioritized according to each planning area's open space needs.

While all of the City's 10 planning areas would benefit from additional open space, the Commission has decided to rank each area in order of need. The ranking is based on the five criteria presented in the Planning Area Assessments Chapter of this Plan.

A ranking of 1 through 10 was calculated for each of the criteria. For example, one of the criteria is Proportion of Area Zoned Residential. A planning area that has more residential than nonresidential area has a higher need for park and open space facilities. Therefore, the planning area with the highest residential area would have the highest need and be assigned the highest ranking of 10.

Ranking assignments were made for each of the five criteria in each of the 10 planning areas. The result was a numerical need score for each area. The lowest possible score was 5 and the highest was 50. The San Antonio Planning Area has the highest need score at 45, while the Grant Planning Area has the lowest need score, 13. For more detailed information about the need score process and the planning area rankings, please refer to Appendix 3.

Planning area recommendations are always listed in their rank order, so that the planning area with the greatest Need Score has priority over those with lower Need Scores.

# **Prioritized Recommendations**

The list of all the prioritized recommendations for this Plan begins on the following page.

# IV. PRIORITIZED RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **INCREASE OPEN SPACE**

## **City-Wide Priority 1**

Acquire open space for a community park north of Central Expressway and south of Highway 101.

## **City-Wide Priority 2**

Acquire open space throughout the City for neighborhood parks and mini-parks, especially in neighborhoods deemed most deficient in open space.

#### **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. San Antonio

Acquire land in the midsection of the San Antonio Planning Area for the development of a mini-park, preferably on the north side of California Street, between Showers Drive, Central Expressway, and Rengstorff Avenue.

#### b. San Antonio

Acquire land for the development of a mini-park bordered by El Camino Real, Del Medio Avenue, Fayette Drive, and San Antonio Road.

#### c. Sylvan-Dale

Acquire land south of El Camino Real for the development of a mini-park.

#### d. Rengstorff

Acquire land in the area bounded by Highway 101, Rengstorff Avenue, San Antonio Road, and Middlefield Road (preferably adjacent to the City-owned parcel at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Reinert Road) for the development of a mini-park.

#### e. **Stierlin**

Acquire land in the area bounded by Central Expressway, Moffett Boulevard, Middlefield Road, and Highway 85 for the development of a mini-park.

### f. Thompson

Acquire land for the development of a mini-park.

#### g. Whisman

Acquire land for development of a neighborhood park as part of the South Whisman development process.

#### City-Wide Priority 3

Work with owners of open space not currently available for acquisition to enable shared use of these resources (by means of joint use, easements, or other cooperative mechanisms).

i. Explore the feasibility of acquiring land adjacent to the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way, Stevens Creek Trail, and Permanente Creek Trail.

#### **City-Wide Priority 4**

Acquire a portion or all of Mountain View's agricultural lands, if they become available, in an effort to preserve the City's agricultural heritage.

i. Acquire land for a garden space that is available to the public. Consider various types of gardens (e.g., urban gardens, demonstration gardens, edible landscaping, etc.).

### **City-Wide Priority 5**

Acquire land adjacent to trails and rights of way.

i. Acquire land adjacent to Hetch Hetchy right-of-way, Stevens Creek Trail, and Permanente Creek Trail.

#### **IMPROVE EXISTING OPEN SPACE**

## **City-Wide Priority 1**

Develop open space as parks for community use, especially in neighborhoods deemed deficient in open space. Encourage maximum community input in all stages of development.

## **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. North Bayshore

Design and construct the Shoreline Sports Complex at Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park.

### City-Wide Priority 2

Preserve and eEnhance the City's urban forest and canopy.

- i. Review and update the Urban Forestry Management Plan.
- ii. Develop public spaces as visual open space (e.g., through landscaping of parking lots, vacant lots, street medians, etc.).

#### **City-Wide Priority 3**

Improve and renovate existing parks. Be creative in the design of park elements and play structures.

#### **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. San Antonio

Continue the renovation of Rengstorff Park consistent with the Rengstorff Park Master Plan.

#### b. Stierlin

Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports Organizations to explore the possibility of converting Crittenden Field to synthetic turf.

#### c. Central

Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Castro School/Park.

#### d. Miramonte

Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Landels School/Park.

#### e. **Grant**

Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Huff School/Park.

#### f. Miramonte

Continue to work with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the development of McKelvey Field and mini-park as part of the Permanente Creek flood protection project.

## IMPROVE EXISTING OPEN SPACE

## **City-Wide Priority 4**

Look for opportunities to add garden space to existing open space.

i. Explore alternative public garden models, such as demonstration gardens, edible landscape, and youth/school gardens.

## **City-Wide Priority 5**

Look for opportunities to add off-leash dog areas to existing open space. Explore a variety of options, including fenced and unfenced areas.

#### PRESERVE EXISTING OPEN SPACE

## **City-Wide Priority 1**

Work with school districts, utility companies, private owners, governmental agencies, etc., to ensure that no current open space is lost. To accomplish this, the City should:

- i. Strengthen existing and future City/school joint-use agreements to provide additional methods to ensure preservation of school open space areas.
- ii. Continue to maintain all joint-use agreements with the school district for use of open space at public middle and elementary schools.
- iii. Develop new joint-use agreements where they currently do not exist.
- iv. Explore the possibility of developing an agreement with the school district for joint use of garden space as a shared community benefit.

#### **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. Miramonte

Explore the possibility of developing an agreement with the Los Altos School District for joint use of open space for public use at Springer Elementary School and future school developments in Mountain View.

#### b. Grant

Explore the possibility of developing an agreement with the Mountain View Los Altos High School District for joint use of open space for public use at Mountain View High School.

v. Strengthen and formalize current partnerships to provide safe custodianship of land in Mountain View that is owned by other agencies, such as the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (Hetch Hetchy), Santa Clara County Water District, Santa Clara County, and PG&E.

#### **City-Wide Priority 2**

Preserve the City's urban forest and canopy in accordance with the City's Urban Forestry Management Plan in order to retain neighborhood character and ensure the greening of the increasingly urbanized environment.

## **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. **Central**

Develop a conceptual use plan for development of the City-owned parcels on South Shoreline Boulevard and California Street as open space.

#### City-Wide Priority 3

Support efforts by other agencies, private organizations, and/or nonprofits to preserve a portion or all of Mountain View's agricultural lands as permanent open space, if they become available.

#### City-Wide Priority 4

Work with other agencies to preserve all Bay-front land.

#### **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. **North Bayshore**

Maintain Charleston Slough and creeks within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park.

#### PROVIDE ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE

## **City-Wide Priority 1**

Work cooperatively within the City and with other governmental agencies to ensure that access to open space resources is enhanced (e.g., traffic safety, attractiveness to users, etc.). Evaluate all City parks to ensure safe crossings.

## **Planning Area Priorities**

#### a. San Antonio

Improve pedestrian and bicycle access to Rengstorff Park consistent with the Rengstorff Park Master Plan.

#### b. Rengstorff

Improve access to Thaddeus Park through safe street crossings and other techniques.

#### c. Rengstorff

Improve access across Central Expressway to Rengstorff Park from the Rengstorff Planning Area.

#### d. Rengstorff

Provide access to the Permanente Creek Trail from Colony Street.

#### e. Central

Improve access to Mariposa Park through safe street crossings and other techniques.

#### f. Miramonte

Collaborate with the Mountain View Whisman School District to provide safe access to Graham Middle School from the residential area bordered by El Camino Real, Castro Street, Miramonte Avenue, and Hans Avenue.

#### g. Grant

Extend the Stevens Creek Trail from the current terminus at Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way south to provide access to the approximately 20 acres of City-owned open space east of Highway 85.

#### **City-Wide Priority 2**

Work cooperatively within the City to build mini-trails to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle access to trails from neighborhoods, especially from neighborhoods that are underserved in open space.

#### **Trail System Priorities**

Identify locations where new or improved access to trails and bicycle routes would improve safe, continuous nonauto routes throughout the City. Implementation of such improvements should be given priority in those planning areas that are underserved by park and open space resources.

a. Explore the feasibility of a trail along the Permanente Creek right-of-way across Central Expressway connecting Crisanto Avenue and Escuela Avenue with the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way.

#### **DEVELOP TRAIL SYSTEMS**

## **City-Wide Priority 1**

Continue developing a City-wide network of trails and pathways to connect neighborhoods to each other and to open space resources and trails.

- i. Continue development of the City's trail system for walking, biking, hiking, wildlife preservation, and other recreational opportunities in accordance with Mountain View City Code. Enhance and preserve native plantings and protect wildlife along trails and in open space areas.
- ii. Explore the possibility of connecting the Stevens Creek, Permanente Creek, and Hetch Hetchy Trails to each other via trails and rights-of-way.
- iii. Look for opportunities to add hydration systems and drinking fountains along trails and pathways.

#### **Trail System Priorities**

#### a. Stevens Creek

- Continue construction of Stevens Creek Trail from Dale/Heatherstone to Mountain View High School.
- Explore the feasibility of improving the Stevens Creek Trail access point at Crittenden Lane to establish a more accessible and formal trailhead.

## b. Hetch Hetchy

- Improve the landscaping at Bonny/Beatrice Streets along the Hetch Hetchy corridor.
- Develop the Hetch Hetchy corridor from El Camino Real to Fayette Drive.
- Explore the feasibility of maintaining the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way as pedestrianaccessible open space.
- Update the Hetch Hetchy Trail feasibility study.

#### c. **Permanente Creek Trail**

- Explore the possibility of a safer crossing (potentially underground) at Charleston Road.
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District to extend the Permanente Creek Trail from Rock Street to West Middlefield Road.
- Explore the feasibility of maintaining the Permanente Creek right-of-way as a trail.
- Conduct a feasibility study for extending the Permanente Creek Trail to the southern border of Mountain View.

### d. Charleston Retention Basin

• Explore the feasibility of connecting the Charleston Retention Basin to the Stevens Creek Trail.

## e. Caltrain Corridor

• Explore the feasibility of an east-west trail corridor from Sunnyvale to Palo Alto, south of Central Expressway and north of El Camino Real, to include consideration of the Caltrain corridor as a possible option.

#### f. Bay Trail

• Explore the feasibility of improving the Bay Trail connection between the western and eastern sides of the Stevens Creek Trail.

## **DEVELOP TRAIL SYSTEMS**

## City-Wide Priority 2

Work with other cities and governmental agencies to develop regional trails connecting Mountain View with other regional trails and open spaces.

## **Trail System Priorities**

- a. Explore all opportunities to connect the City's regional open space areas to the former Cargill Salt Ponds as they are returned to their natural state.
- b. Work with other cities and agencies to develop Stevens Creek Trail and the Bay Trail for the purpose of developing a regional network of interlinked trail systems.

## City-Wide Priority 3

Develop trails and pathways to provide safe connections between transit centers and parks and open space areas.

# V. PLANNING AREA ASSESSMENTS

"No town can fail of beauty...if venerable trees make magnificent colonnades along its streets."

Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887) Clergyman and reformer

## **INTRODUCTION**

While the City has an outstanding park and recreation system, the City-wide assessment presented previously reveals a number of existing needs. In addition, it is clear that parks and open space resources are not evenly distributed among the various neighborhoods in Mountain View. Balancing the needs and concerns of each neighborhood within Mountain View is a difficult task, especially given the scarcity of space in a city as developed as Mountain View and the volatility of development funds. A necessary first step, however, is to conduct a clear analysis of the parks and open space needs in Mountain View and its various neighborhoods.

In order to provide an organized way to evaluate the City's parks and open space needs, the City is divided into 10 planning areas. While the planning areas are simply based on census tract boundaries, they are useful for the purpose of this Plan because they provide a consistent framework and help facilitate a logical method of analysis. In order to provide useful comparison information, the data (e.g., density, amount of existing open space) for each planning area is compared against the "average" of that data for all the planning areas. So while one area may be above average in the amount of open space provided per resident, another may be below. Since all the comparisons are relative to the average, it helps provide a picture of the areas in greatest need of open space and park facilities or improvements.

Throughout this Plan, open space calculations are generally shown without the regional open space acreage included. These planning area assessments make this distinction when comparing the calculations against the "average of all planning areas." This "average" excludes the North Bayshore Planning Area. The North Bayshore Area contains all of the City's regional open space (with the exception of portions of Stevens Creek Trail) but has very little population or housing. The large open space acreage tends to skew the picture of what the "average" planning area looks like.

On the following pages are the assessments of parks and open space needs for each of the 10 planning areas. The 10 planning areas are presented in alphabetical order for ease of reference. A map showing the location of each planning area within the City boundaries is provided on the next page. More detailed maps of each individual planning area are provided in the assessments.

A fair amount of demographic and other data is presented for each planning area. This data was crucial to the evaluation of open space needs for each area. Factors such as the number of single-family versus multi-family homes, density and the current amount of available open space were taken into consideration. This data is presented in detail in each planning area assessment. For an overview of the data for all planning areas, please refer to Appendix 2. Please note that the calculation to determine the current amount of open space for each area includes only "existing facilities" and does not include areas discussed as "other open space" within each Chapter.

#### Method of Assessment

The purpose of conducting these planning area assessments was to determine which areas meet the City's minimum standards for parks and open space and to help determine how to make improvements. The needs assessment for each area was based on a variety of factors, including improvements to the area since adoption of the 2008 Plan, existing parks and open space resources in and adjacent to the planning area, City demographics, public input and application of Acquisition and Improvement Criteria.

Acquisition and Improvement Criteria were used to determine if there is an additional need for parks or open space in a planning area. Each of the 10 planning areas was evaluated using these criteria:

#### **Acquisition and Improvement Criteria**

### Proportion of Land in Residential Use

• Is the area primarily zoned for residential or commercial/industrial uses?

#### Residential Density

• Is the density of the residential area, including number of children, high or low?

## Proportion of Multi-Family Housing

• Is the residential acreage in the area primarily single-family or multi-family housing?

## Availability of Open Space Within a Safe and Comfortable Walking Distance

- Do residents have access to open space facilities within a one-half-mile walking distance without crossing major traffic barriers?
- The National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) desirable standards for park and recreation facilities indicate that up to one-half mile is generally considered to be a comfortable walking distance.

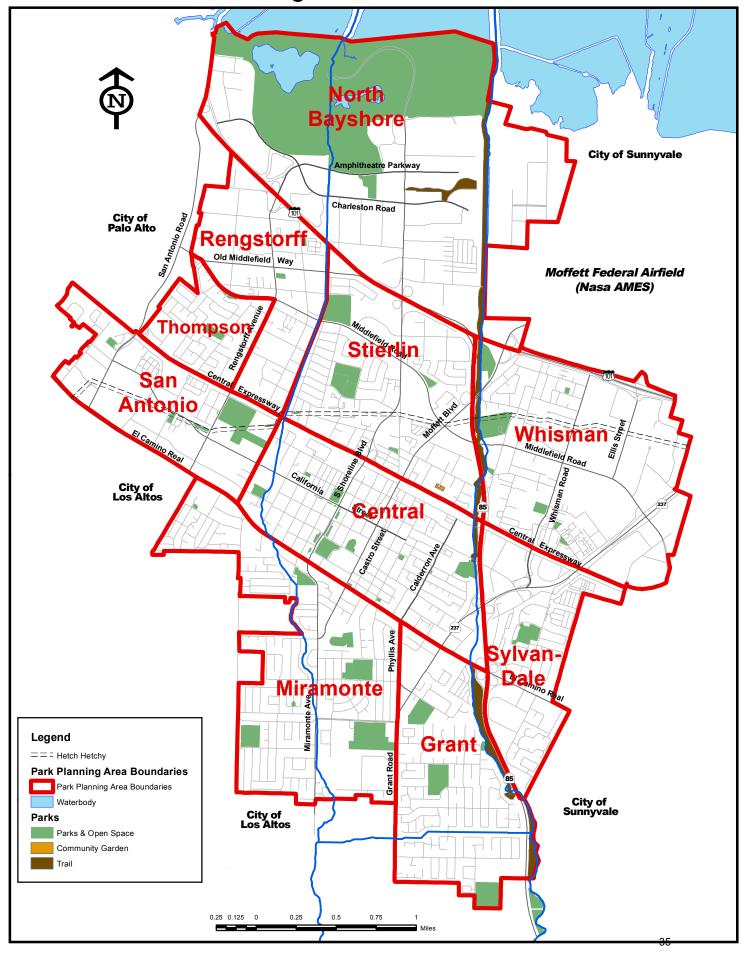
## Current Amount of Open Space

- What is the inventory of open space in the area and what type is it?
- Is the overall City standard of providing 3 acres of open space for every 1,000 residents met?<sup>1</sup>

For each planning area chapter, this document presents a listing of open space facilities, relevant demographic data, an assessment of open space and park needs, a discussion of these needs and specific recommendations. These recommendations are prioritized within the framework of City-wide recommendations, as presented previously in Chapter IV - Recommendations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Appendix 8 provides more information about the use of open space standards and, more specifically, about how Mountain View's open space standard was developed.

# Planning Area Boundaries



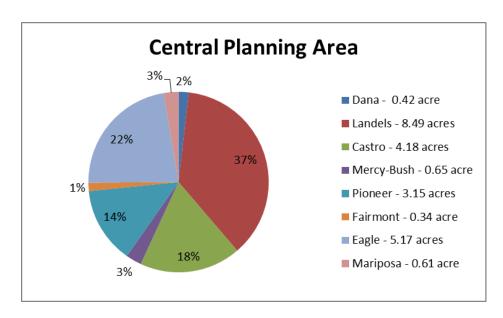
# V. CENTRAL PLANNING AREA

The Central Planning Area is bounded by Central Expressway, Highway 85, El Camino Real and Escuela Avenue. It is the fourth largest planning area with 784 acres and a mixture of neighborhoods.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Central Planning Area is well served by 23.01 acres of parks, open space and recreation facilities that include Castro, Dana, Pioneer, Eagle, Landels, Fairmont, Mercy-Bush, and Mariposa Parks. Mariposa Park is a 0.61 acre mini-park that was opened to the public in June 2012 and features a children's play area, an environmental area and picnic tables. Eagle Park provides an Aquatics Center that is open to the public year around. A new Teen Center located on Escuela Avenue is currently under construction and is anticipated to open in November 2014. Activities at the developed park sites include; swimming, soccer, softball, basketball, rugby, special events, picnicking, and children's play areas. The field areas at both school/park sites, Castro and Landels, are maintained by the City as part of a joint use agreement with the Mountain View Whisman School District for shared use of the play fields after-school.

A good portion of the open space at Landels School and all of the open space at Castro School is owned by the Mountain View Los Altos School District. The City also maintains a tot lot at Castro School and one of three tot lots at Landels. Both schools are currently utilized for after-school recreation programming as well as youth sports. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Central Planning Area.



#### **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

The Stevens Creek Trail runs along a portion of the east border of the planning area. Access to the trail is provided at Landels School. Four City-owned parcels (1.83 acres total) on South Shoreline Boulevard have been zoned as visual open space. The City maintains a 0.14 acre parcel at the corner of Calderon Avenue and Eldora Drive and a 0.18 acre parcel at El Camino Real and Castro Street.

#### Criteria Assessment

The following assessment is based on the criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the Central Planning Area.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

- The Central Planning Area is mostly residential in nature (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).
- Other uses include the downtown and commercial businesses along El Camino Real.

## **Residential Density:**

• The residential density is higher than the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

• The Central Planning Area is equally divided between single family and multi-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

## Availability of Open Space Within a Safe and Comfortable Walking Distance:

- Major traffic barriers are: California Street, Castro Street, Central Expressway, El Camino Real, Shoreline Boulevard, Highway 85 and Highway 237 (see map in Appendix 10).
- All portions of the Central Planning Area are within a one-half-mile walking distance of a park or open space facility.

# **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	Central Planning Area	Citywide Average (excluding North Bayshore)
1	2010 Census Population	11,318	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population under 19)	2,110 (14%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	784	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Area)	Multi-Family 260 acres (33%)  Single-Family 258 acres (33%)  Total 518 acres (66%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single-Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Area)	23.01 (3%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons per residential acre)	22	20
7	Open Space Acres per 1,000 Residents	2.03	3.00 City Standard <sup>1</sup>

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is the same as the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 2.03 acres per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's land dedication ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

## **DISCUSSION**

The Central Planning Area has a larger percentage of land in residential use than the average for all planning areas. Due to the high proportion of multi-family units, residential density is also above average. Its residential land use includes some of Mountain View's oldest neighborhoods. A key feature of this area is the thriving downtown and the Mountain View Transit Center, which provides Caltrain and light rail commuter rail, bus and private shuttle services.

The park acreage per 1,000 residents is below the City standard (2.03 versus 3.00). The open space at Castro and Landel Schools are included in this total. Due to after school use of the fields and other facilities for school programs, public access to the open space is limited. Because a large portion of the open space in the planning area is owned by the School District (41%), availability of open space could be limited by changing school district circumstances. School uses and needs would prevail over open space.

The Central Planning Area is essentially divided into several distinct areas by the downtown and streets with high traffic volume. Castro Street and Shoreline Boulevard act as north-south divisions and California Street as an east-west division. All these various areas are well served by a variety of different park types, including four miniparks and four neighborhood parks (two of which are joint City/school sites). Rengstorff Park is also located immediately adjacent, and accessible, to a portion of the Central Planning Area. All areas of the planning area are able to access a park or open space facility within a safe walking distance without having to cross a major traffic barrier.

The City's relationship with the Mountain View Whisman School District is important to the preservation of open space and the continued improvement of recreational facilities for the community. The Commission recommends working with the School District on the construction of restroom facilities after-hours at school sites for use by Youth Sports Organizations and the community to increases the usability of the open space after hours.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

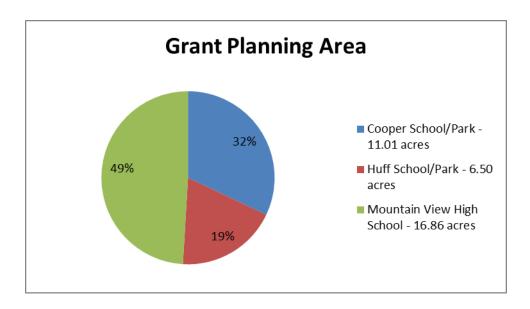
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports
   Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Castro School/Park.
- Develop a conceptual use plan for development of the City-owned parcels on South Shoreline Boulevard and California Street as open space.
- Improve access to Mariposa Park through safe street crossings and other techniques.

# V. Grant Planning Area

The Grant Planning Area is located in the southeast portion of the City and is bounded by El Camino Real, Highway 85, the Los Altos border and Grant Road. The area is 695 acres in size, the sixth largest of the planning areas, and consists primarily of single-family residential uses.

## **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Grant Planning Area is well served by 34.37 acres of parks and open space located at three school sites: Cooper and Huff Elementary Schools and Mountain View High School. Cooper is a closed school site currently occupied by a private preschool. The City owns one-half of the Cooper site, but Huff and Mountain View High are owned solely by the School Districts. The field facilities at both Huff and Cooper, as well as the tennis courts and playground at Cooper, are maintained by the City. The City does not have an agreement with the Mountain View Los Altos High School District for shared use of Mountain View High as a park. It functions as an informal public open space only. Activities at the other sites include soccer, baseball, tennis, rugby, and playground programs. This planning area also has close access to Cuesta Park, as well as Oak Elementary School in Los Altos. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Grant Planning Area.



#### OTHER OPEN SPACE

A 0.40 acre parcel of open space is located at the corner of Sleeper and Franklin Avenues, adjacent to the Stevens Creek Trail along Highway 85. The City owns approximately one-third of the parcel at the northern most end and the remaining two-thirds is owned by the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The City maintains the entire parcel as passive open space for the enjoyment of the community.

#### CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

The following assessment is based on the criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the Grant Planning Area.

## Proportion of Land in Residential Use:

• The Grant Planning Area is primarily residential in nature (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

• The residential density is lower than the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

• More of the residential acreage in the area is devoted to single-family homes than to multi-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

## Availability of Open Space Within a Safe and Comfortable Walking Distance:

- Major traffic barriers are: Grant Road, Highway 85, Phyllis Avenue and El Camino Real (see map in Appendix 10).
- One small group of homes and apartments, located along Phyllis Avenue and Pamela Drive (near El Camino Real), is not within one-half mile walking distance of a public park or open space facility without crossing a major traffic barrier (see map in Appendix 10). The housing in this area is primarily low-density apartments and duplexes.

# **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	Grant Planning Area	City-wide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	5,424	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population under 19)	1,274 (9%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	695	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 33 acres (5%)  Single-Family 468 acres (67%)  Total 501 acres (72%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single-Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	34.37 (5%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	11	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	6.34	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acreage is above average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table above, line 5).
- Park acreage of 6.34 acres per 1,000 residents exceeds the City's overall standard of 3 acres per 1,000 residents.

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's Land Dedication Ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Grant Planning Area is above average in the amount of residential area and is mostly large-lot, single-family homes with only a small percentage of multi-family units. Accordingly, residential density is well below the City-wide average. The park acreage per 1,000 residents exceeds the City standard (6.34 versus 3.00). The open space at Mountain View High School is included in this figure. Currently, the City does not have an agreement with the Mountain View Los Altos High School District for joint use of the open space at this school. Due to the after school use of the fields and other facilities for school programs, public access to the open space is limited. If the open space at Mountain View High School is not considered, the number of open space acres in the Grant Planning Area is reduced from 34.37 acres to 17.51 acres. Accordingly, the park acreage per 1,000 residents is reduced from 6.34 acres to 3.23 acres. Because the majority of open space in this planning area is owned by the School Districts (85%), availability of open space in the Grant area could be limited by changing school district circumstances. School uses and needs would prevail over open space use.

The Grant Planning Area is not considered deficient in parks or open space and all portions of the area, except one, have safe and comfortable access to a park or school. However, the large amount of land owned by the School Districts increase the need for other open space opportunities. There is a small parcel of open space at the corner of Sleeper and Franklin Avenues. It is a valuable addition to the neighborhood and should be preserved for open space use.

The City's relationship with the Mountain View Whisman School District is important to the preservation of open space and the continued improvement of recreational facilities for the community. The Commission recommends working with the School District on the construction of restroom facilities after-hours at school sites for use by Youth Sports Organizations and the community to increases the usability of the open space after hours.

The extension of the Stevens Creek Trail into the Grant Planning Area provides the ability for residents to connect to other parks located along the trail, and to enjoy the large open space area owned by the City. The 18.6 acre City-owned area along the trail is valuable open space. The widest portion of the area has a bench and serves as a reflection area for public use and enjoyment.

One small section of the planning area, located along Phyllis Avenue and Pamela Drive, does not have safe and comfortable access to a park without crossing a major traffic barrier (Appendix 10).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports
   Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Huff School/Park.
- Explore the possibility of developing an agreement with the Mountain View Los Altos High School District for joint use of open space for public use at Mountain View High School.
- Extend the Stevens Creek Trail from the current terminus at Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way south to provide access to the approximately 20 acres of City-owned open space east of Highway 85.

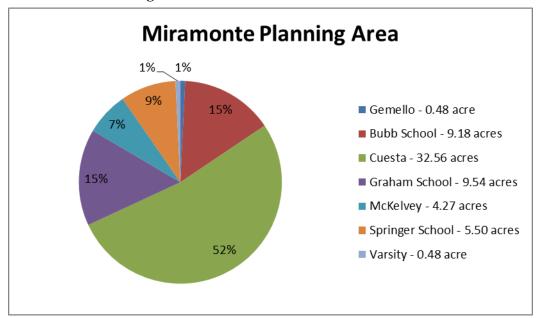
# V. MIRAMONTE PLANNING AREA

The Miramonte Planning Area is bounded by El Camino Real, Grant Road, the Los Altos border and Springer Road. It is the third largest planning area with 953 acres and consists primarily of single-family residential uses.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Miramonte Planning Area is well served by 62.01 acres of open space located at three school sites, two mini-parks, one neighborhood park and one Community Park. The three school sites are Bubb and Springer Elementary and Graham Middle Schools. A good portion of Bubb and Graham and all of Springer are owned by the School Districts (Springer School is in the Los Altos Elementary School District). The City maintains the open space at Bubb Elementary and Graham Middle Schools through a joint use agreement with the Mountain View Whisman School District. The City does not maintain the open space at Springer Elementary, but does provide twice yearly fertilization and aerification of the fields.

Other open space in the area includes Gemello and Varsity mini-parks, McKelvey neighborhood park, Cuesta Community Park and Annex, and the Mountain View Sports Pavilion, located at Graham school. Activities at the park sites include; soccer, baseball, football, softball, basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, tennis, futsal, recreation programs, special events, picnicking, and children's play areas. The pie chart below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Miramonte Planning Area.



#### OTHER OPEN SPACE

Almond Elementary School and Los Altos High School, located in the City of Los Altos, also provide nearby open space opportunities.

## **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on the criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the Miramonte Planning Area.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

• The Miramonte Planning Area is primarily residential in nature (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

 Residential density is lower than the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

 More of the residential acreage in the area is devoted to single-family homes than to multi-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers are: Miramonte Avenue, a portion of Cuesta Drive, Grant Road, El Monte Road and El Camino Real (see map in Appendix 10).
- One area, about one-quarter square mile in size (bordered by El Camino Real, Castro Street, and Miramonte Avenue), is not within a one-half-mile walking distance of a park or open space facility without having to cross major traffic barriers (see map in Appendix 10). The housing in this area is primarily older, single-family homes and duplexes.

# **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	Miramonte Planning Area	City-wide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	9,657	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	2,330 (16%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	953	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 114 acres (12%) Single Family 582 acres (61%)  Total 696 acres (73%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	62.01 (7%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	14	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	6.42	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.00

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is above the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table above, line 5).
- Park acreage of 6.42 acres per 1,000 residents exceeds City's overall standard of 3.00 acres per 1,000 residents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's land dedication ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Miramonte Planning Area is above average in the amount of residential area and is mostly large-lot, single family homes with a small percentage of multi-family units. Accordingly, the residential density is well below the City-wide average. The majority of the multi-family housing borders the mixed-use corridor along the south side of El Camino Real. The park acreage per 1,000 residents exceeds the City standard (6.42 versus 3.00). The open space at Springer Elementary School is included in this figure. Currently, the City does not have an agreement with the Los Altos School District for joint use of the open space at this school. Due to after school use of the fields and other facilities for school programs, public access to the open space is limited. If the open space at Springer School is not considered, the number of open space acres in the Miramonte Planning Area decreases from 62.01 acres to 56.51 acres, reducing the amount of open space per 1,000 residents from 6.42 to 5.85 acres.

The area is well served by park land and facilities, including one community park, one neighborhood park, three school/park sites, two mini-parks, a tennis center, and an athletic field complex and Mountain View Sports Pavilion located at Graham Middle School. When the Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project at McKelvey Park is completed, another mini-park will be added to the Planning Area.

The City is currently working with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project to convert the City's neighborhood park, McKelvey Park, to a flood detention basin that is large enough to accommodate water from a 100-year flood. The project includes the reconstruction of two ballfields of the same size and orientation and development of a new mini-park. Park amenities will include a children's play area, a water feature, picnic tables, and a lawn area. The new park design provides an equal amount of open space acreage. Construction is estimated to begin in the summer of 2015.

The City's relationship with the School Districts is important to the preservation of open space and the continued improvement of recreational facilities for the public. An example of a shared-use project is the development of the Graham Sports Complex. The City and the Mountain View Whisman School District worked together to build an athletic field complex on top of an 8-million gallon reservoir at Graham Middle School. In exchange for the right to build a buried reservoir, the City agreed to construct and maintain new athletic fields as a shared use facility for students during the day and for the community after school hours. The athletic field complex has a track, field space for soccer, football, and baseball, lights, and artificial turf allowing all season play.

Another example of a shared-use opportunity is working with the School District on the construction of restrooms that would be available to Youth Sports Organizations and the community after hours, increasing the usability of the field space.

There is a small pocket of land (bordered by El Camino Real, Castro Street and Miramonte Avenue) that does not have a safe and comfortable walking distance to open space without crossing a major traffic barrier. Due to its close proximity to Graham Middle School, providing safe access for children across major intersections remains a recommended project of the Commission.

Of special note is the vacant City-owned parcel (partially occupied by an old orchard) adjacent to Cuesta Park commonly known as the Cuesta Annex. The Cuesta Annex has undergone a master planning process to determine future use and the community recommended the area remain as open space.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

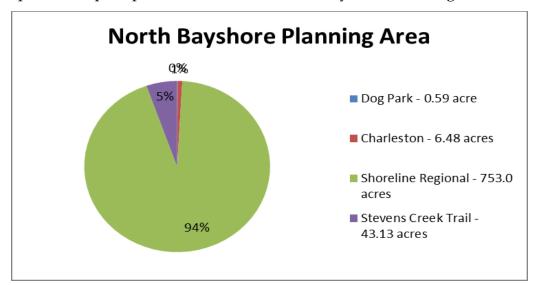
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports
   Organizations to design and construct a joint-use restroom at Landels School/Park.
- Continue to work with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the development of McKelvey Field and mini-park as part of the Permanente Creek Flood Protection Project.
- Explore the possibility of developing an agreement with the Los Altos School
  District for joint use of open space for public use at Springer Elementary School and
  future school developments in Mountain View.

# V. NORTH BAYSHORE PLANNING AREA

The North Bayshore Planning Area is bounded by Highway 101, San Francisco Bay, Moffett Airfield and Bayshore Parkway/Terminal Boulevard (Palo Alto border). At 1,968 acres in size, it is the largest planning area in the City.

## **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The North Bayshore Planning Area is served by 803.20 acres of open space composed of numerous open space recreational areas, including Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park, Charleston Park, Stevens Creek Trail, Permanente Creek Trail, and a community dog park. Vista Slope and Crittenden Hill combine with the original Shoreline at Mountain View park acreage to form the regional open space at Shoreline at Mountain View. There are many amenities at Shoreline at Mountain View Park, including an 18-hole golf course, a sailing lake, historic Rengstorff House, restaurants, and a kite flying lot. There are also two small residential areas within the North Bayshore Planning Area. A 360-unit mobile home park is located in the eastern section of the planning area, adjacent to Stevens Creek Trail. There are also small-scale apartments and duplexes located at Moffett Field (but within the City's boundaries) near the intersection of Moffett Boulevard and Highway 101. The pie chart below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park and open space facilities in the North Bayshore Planning Area.



The remainder of the area has been widely developed during recent years by leading computer, pharmaceutical and financial investment firms. Some of these developments have included recreational open space for employees which are not included in the City's open space acreage. The North Bayshore Area is also host to the Shoreline Amphitheatre, a 25,000-seat professional entertainment venue.

## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

The North Bayshore Area also features many other natural areas not included in the City's regional open space acreage, such as Permanente Creek, Charleston Retention Basin, Mountain View Tidal Marsh, Stevens Creek Tidal Marsh, Charleston Slough, and the former salt evaporation ponds. These areas serve as native habitats for plants and animals and portions are environmentally protected areas for species of special concern, such as the burrowing owl.

## **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on the criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the North Bayshore Planning Area. However, due to the atypical nature of this area with respect to open space and residential acreage, no direct comparison will be made of the North Bayshore Planning Area in relation to the remaining planning areas. Data in the North Bayshore will be discussed individually with respect to its unique characteristics.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

- The North Bayshore Planning Area consists primarily of industrial and regional open space uses. Shoreline at Mountain View and associated open space and the Shoreline Amphitheatre account for over one-half of the land area. While there are relatively few permanent residents, the daytime population swells due to the high concentration of industrial uses in the planning area.
- There is a small mobile home park located adjacent to Stevens Creek Trail about 38 acres in size. This residential pocket accounts for about 2% of the planning area (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).
- A small pocket of military housing within the Mountain View City limits is located at Moffett Field and comprises approximately 40 units.

#### **Residential Density:**

 Residential density is high for the North Bayshore Planning Area due to the mobile home park located within the planning area boundaries. Dense development is common for mobile home parks (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

#### **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

There are only multi-family housing units in the North Bayshore Area.

## Availability of Open Space Within a Safe and Comfortable Walking Distance:

- Major traffic barriers are: Highway 101, Shoreline Boulevard, Charleston Road and Amphitheatre Parkway (see map in Appendix 10).
- The mobile home park is within a one-half-mile walking distance to the Stevens Creek Trail which provides access to Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park to the north and Whisman School/Park and Creekside Park to the south.

# **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	North Bayshore Planning Area
1	2010 Census Population	817
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	150 (18%)
3	Size (Acres)	1,968
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 38 acres (2%) Single-Family 0 acres (0%)  Total 38 acres (2%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	803.20 (41%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	22
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	983.1 <sup>1</sup>

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ Does not include salt ponds, Permanente Creek, or Charleston Retention Basin.

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- There is a large amount of open space in this planning area due to the substantial size
  of Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park (see Planning Area Data Table, previous
  page, line 5). Regional open space from Stevens Creek Trail is also included.
- Park acreage of 983.1 acres<sup>1</sup> per 1,000 residents is an anomaly as the number of residents in the planning area is very low, and the total open space acreage is very high.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The North Bayshore Planning Area is unique among Mountain View's planning areas in that its acreage is almost equally divided between high-technology industrial and open space uses. These uses serve not only Mountain View residents and employees of these local firms, but also a wide regional audience. When analyzing open space needs for the City, the North Bayshore Planning area is excluded as it contains all of the City's regional open space with very little housing.

The area is well served for open space with Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park, Charleston Park, Stevens Creek Trail, Permanente Creek Trail, and a community dog park. The number of open space acres per 1,000 residents for the North Bayshore Planning Area is 13.35, well above the City's standard of 3.00 acres per 1,000 residents.

The City is currently working on a project to construct the Shoreline Sports Complex, a multi-use athletic field north of Garcia Avenue. The sports complex will have two synthetic-turf soccer fields, one baseball and one softball field each with dugouts, a concession stand, a children's play area, and lights for evening play. Construction is estimated to begin in May 2014 and be completed in the summer of 2015.

While the mobile home park does not have easy access to nearby Charleston Park without having to cross a major traffic barrier, there is direct access to the Stevens Creek Trail. The trail head at the end of La Avenida is a short, easy walk from the mobile home park. The trail provides a barrier-free connection directly to Shoreline at Mountain View Park to the north and Whisman School/Park and Creekside Park to the south. Therefore, residential areas within the North Bayshore Planning Area are able to walk safely to a park or open space facility within one-half mile.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

 Design and construct the Shoreline Sports Complex at Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park.

•	Maintain Charleston Slough and creeks within Shoreline at Mountain View R Park.	egional

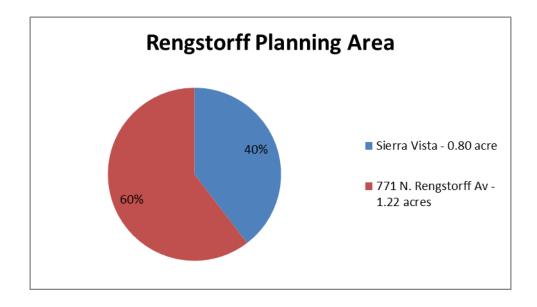
# V. Rengstorff Planning Area

The Rengstorff Planning Area is on the west side of the City, bounded by Highway 101, Permanente Creek, Rengstorff Avenue, Central Expressway, Middlefield Road, and the Palo Alto city boundary. At 465 acres, it is one of the smallest planning areas.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Rengstorff Planning Area is served by 2.02 acres of open space, the least amount of open space per 1,000 residents of all the planning areas. Residents in the area are served by one-developed mini-park, Sierra Vista. Recognizing the need for additional open space, the City Council approved the purchase of 1.22 acres of land located at 771 N. Rengstorff Avenue to be developed into a mini-park for the neighborhood. Over the next year, the City will be working with the community on a park design.

While Sierra Vista Park is the only developed public park or open space facility in the area, the majority of the residences are located in the southern portion of the planning area and have access to Crittenden and Stevenson Parks, located in the adjacent Planning Area (Stierlin). Amenities provided at Sierra Vista Park include a children's play area and benches for picnicking. The pie chart below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Rengstorff Planning Area.



## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

There is a small City-owned parcel (0.17 acre) at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Reinert Road that has been landscaped and retained as passive open space.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

The following assessment is based on the criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the Rengstorff Planning Area.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

• The Rengstorff Planning Area is an even mix of residential and commercial/industrial properties (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

 Residential density is above the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6). Residential density is the second highest of all planning areas.

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

 All of the residential area is zoned for multi-family housing. However, there are some single-family units located on parcels zoned for either multi-family or commercial use.

- Major traffic barriers are: Central Expressway, Rengstorff Avenue, Middlefield Road, Old Middlefield Way, San Antonio Road and Highway 101 (see map in Appendix 10).
- There is an approximately five-block residential area bounded by Middlefield Road, Old Middlefield Way and Rengstorff Avenue that is not within a one-half-mile walking distance of a park or open space facility without having to cross major traffic barriers (see map in Appendix 10). This five-block area is primarily large, low-rise apartment complexes.

## Planning Area Data Table

Line #	Description	Rengstorff Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	6,577	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	1,136 (17%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	465	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 244 acres (52%)  Single-Family 0 acres (0%)  Total 244 acres (52%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single-Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	2.02 (0.4%)	21.10 (3.2 %)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	27	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	0.31	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is below the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 0.31 acre per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000. Included in this total is the 1.22 acres of undeveloped park land located at 771 N. Rengstorff Avenue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's Land Dedication Ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Rengstorff Planning Area is a mix of industrial, commercial and residential uses. The Planning Area features established multi-family residential neighborhoods, neighborhood shopping centers, and commercial corridors along Old Middlefield Way and Charleston Road. All of the residential housing is zoned for multi-family units and residential density is the second highest of all planning areas. The number of park acres per 1,000 residents is well below the City standard (0.31 versus 3.00). This total includes the 1.22 acres of undeveloped open space at 771 N. Rengstorff Avenue. The Planning Area has both the lowest acreage of open space and the lowest acreage per 1,000 residents of any planning area.

There is an approximately 5 block residential area that is not located within one-half-mile walking distance of a park facility. Even though many persons in the southern residential area between Rengstorff Avenue and Farley Street have access to open space in the Stierlin Planning Area at Crittenden and Stevenson Schools and Rex Manor minipark, the area is still deficient in open space. Ideally, land for a park site would be acquired in the small area between Middlefield Road and Old Middlefield Way. However, it is also possible that the small landscape parcel the City owns at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Reinert Road (north of Old Middlefield Way) could be expanded into a park site with future acquisitions. Whether additional open space is acquired or not, the northern portion of the planning area tends to be isolated from existing park resources due to the presence of traffic barriers. Providing safe access to Thaddeus Park across Middlefield Road and providing an access point to the Permanente Creek Trail from Colony Street would benefit the neighborhood on the north side of the Planning Area.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Acquire land in the area bounded by Highway 101, Rengstorff Avenue, San Antonio Road, and Middlefield Road (preferably adjacent to the City-owned parcel at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Reinert Road) for development of a mini-park.
- Improve access to Thaddeus Park through safe street crossings and other techniques.
- Improve access across Central Expressway to Rengstorff Park from the Rengstorff Planning Area.
- Provide access to the Permanente Creek Trail from Colony Street.

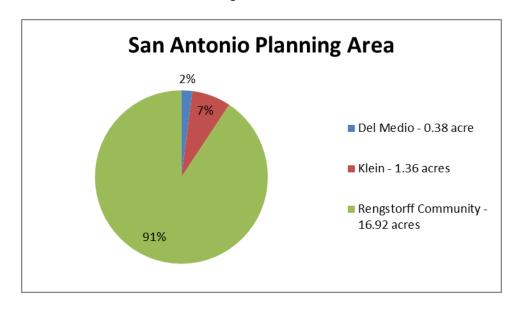
# V. San Antonio Planning Area

The San Antonio Planning Area is in the southwest corner of the City, bounded by Central Expressway, the City of Palo Alto border, El Camino Real and Escuela Avenue. The Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way runs in an east-west direction through the area. At 505 acres, it is the seventh largest planning area in the City.

## **EXISTING FACILITIES**

This area is served by 18.66 acres of parks and open space located at Rengstorff Park, and Klein and Del Medio mini-parks. Del Medio is a 0.38 acre mini-park that was opened to the public in November 2011. Castro School/Park is immediately adjacent in the Central area and serves the residents on the east side of the planning area. Also, Monroe Park in Palo Alto is located near the western-most part of the planning area. Rengstorff Park is one of two large community parks and is heavily used by the community. The City's Community Center building, Aquatics Center, Skate Park, and tennis facility is also located at Rengstorff Park. Activities at the park sites include; a wide variety of youth and adult classes and community meetings held at the Community Center, tennis, basketball, swimming, skateboarding, children's play areas, outdoor fitness equipment, family and group barbeque facilities, special events, and informal field sports such as football, soccer and softball.

The City's Senior Center is also located in the San Antonio Planning Area. The Senior Center offers a wide variety of social services, classes, and nutrition programs to seniors 55 and older. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the San Antonio Planning Area.



## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

There is a 0.41 acre Senior Garden located on the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way near the corner of Escuela and Crisanto Avenues. Sixty-three (63) garden plots are leased to Mountain View senior residents on an annual basis. Because the senior garden is only available to those who have been assigned a garden plot, it is not figured into the total park and open space resources for the San Antonio Planning Area.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

The following assessment is based on criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the planning area.

## Proportion of Land in Residential Use:

- The San Antonio Planning Area includes some office buildings and extensive commercial areas, including a large shopping district. A little over half of the area is residentially zoned (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).
- The residential areas are primarily multi-family, with only small pockets of single-family homes (see Planning Area Table, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

 Residential density is by far the highest of any planning area (see Planning Area Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

 There are a greater number of multi-family housing units in the San Antonio Planning Area as compared to single-family units (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers, including California Street, Central Expressway, El Camino Real, Rengstorff Avenue and San Antonio Road, divide the area and make access to open space facilities difficult (see map in Appendix 10).
- A large area bordered by San Antonio Road, California Street, Rengstorff Avenue and Central Expressway is not within a one-half-mile walking distance of parks or open

space facilities without having to cross major traffic barriers (see Map, Appendix 10). Although there is some new housing in this area, the majority are small-lot, single-family units and high-density, multi-family complexes with some duplexes.

## **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	San Antonio Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	13,951	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	2,857 (19%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	505	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 276 acres (54%) Single-Family 29 acres (6%) Total 305 acres (60%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single-Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	18.66 (4%)	21.1 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	46	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	1.34	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is above the average for all planning areas (see Planning Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 1.34 acres per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000 residents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's Land Dedication Ordinance (refer to Appendix Page 8).

The San Antonio Planning Area is a mix of commercial and residential uses. Nearly half of the overall area is composed of multi-family units, including transit-oriented development around the San Antonio Caltrain Station. As a result, the density of the residential areas is the highest of all planning areas. The park acreage per 1,000 residents is below the City standard (1.34 versus 3.00). A project has been approved to design and construct a 1.29 acre mini-park located between El Camino Real and Fayette Drive along the Hetch Hetchy corridor. The design process is scheduled to begin in Fiscal Year 2014-15.

Given the large number of multi-family units, lack of open space acreage, and the high residential density, the San Antonio Planning Area has been identified as the area with the greatest need for additional open space. The Commission has recommended that open space be acquired in the area bounded by San Antonio Road, California Street, Rengstorff Avenue and Central Expressway, which is isolated from City's open space facilities in the area.

The Senior Garden provides additional open space, but is only open to senior residents in Mountain View who have been assigned a garden plot. For that reason, the garden is not included in the calculation determining the amount of open space available in this planning area.

Improvements have been made to increase access across Rengstorff Avenue from the neighborhood to the west of Rengstorff Park with the installation of a high visibility crosswalk with in-roadway warning lights. Additional improvements need to be made to increase access to Rengstorff Park across Central Expressway.

Rengstorff Park is a heavily used community park and accounts for 91% of the open space located in the San Antonio Planning Area. Therefore, the park is very important to the surrounding neighborhoods as well as the community as a whole. Recently, the City Council adopted the Rengstorff Park Master Plan in March 2014 for the renovation of the existing Community Center, Aquatics Center, and to make other park improvements. The Council has approved a project to begin the design process for the renovation of the Community Center in Fiscal Year 2014-15.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

 Acquire land in the midsection of the San Antonio Planning Area for development of a mini-park, preferably on the north side of California Street between Showers Drive, Central Expressway and Rengstorff Avenue. (See map in Appendix 11).

- Acquire land for the development of a mini-park bordered by El Camino Real, Del Medio Avenue, Fayette Drive, and San Antonio Road.
- Continue the renovation of Rengstorff Park consistent with the Rengstorff Park Master Plan.
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle access to Rengstorff Park consistent with the Rengstorff Park Master Plan.

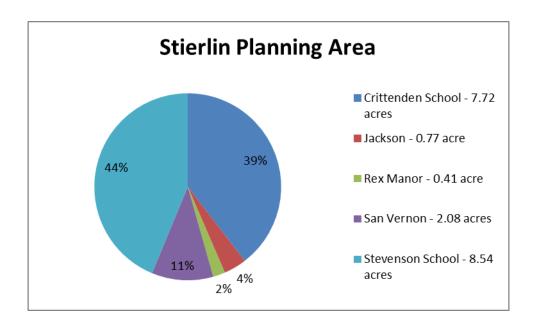
# V. STIERLIN PLANNING AREA

The Stierlin Planning Area is in the north-central portion of the City, bounded by Highway 101, Highway 85, Central Expressway and Permanente Creek. At 754 acres, this is the fifth largest planning area in the City.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

This area is served by 19.52 acres of parks and open space located at Rex Manor, San Vernon and Jackson mini-parks, Stevenson School/Park, Crittenden Middle School and Athletic Fields, and the Whisman Sports Center. A portion of the park area at Stevenson Park (Theuerkauf School) and all of the area at Crittenden School are owned by the Mountain View Whisman School District but maintained by the City. Activities at the park sites include; football, soccer, softball, baseball, basketball, futsal, Frisbee, after school programs, youth and teen camps and classes, children's play areas, and special events. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Stierlin Planning Area.

The Stevens Creek Trail runs along the eastern border of the Stierlin Planning Area connecting the neighborhood to the City's Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park to the north and Whisman School/Park and Creekside Park located directly east of the planning area.



## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

The Willowgate Community Garden is a 1.0 acre garden space located on Willowgate Street just north of Central Expressway. The community garden is a resource for the entire City but is open only to those who have obtained garden plots. Eighty-four (84) garden plots are leased to Mountain View residents on an annual basis. Therefore, it is not figured into the total park and open space resources for the Stierlin Planning Area. The Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way runs in an east-west direction through the lower portion of the planning area.

### **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the planning area.

## Proportion of Land in Residential Use:

The Stierlin Planning Area is a mix of residential, commercial and industrial uses. A
majority of the planning area is zoned for residential use (see Planning Area Data
Table below, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

• The residential density is below the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

#### **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

 More of the residential acreage in the area is devoted to multi-family homes than to single-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers are: Highway 101, Highway 85, Central Expressway, Middlefield Road, Moffett Blvd, Shoreline Boulevard and Old Middlefield Way (see map in Appendix 10).
- With the extension of the Permanente Creek Trail into the Stierlin Planning Area and the Stevens Creek Trail running along the eastern border, residents are able to safely walk to a park or open space facility within a comfortable walking distance.

# Planning Area Data Table

Line #	Description	Stierlin Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	9,083	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	1,499 (10%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	754	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 297 acres (39%)  Single-Family 190 acres (25%)  Total 487 acres (64%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single-Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	19.52 (3%)	21.10 (3%)
6	(Residential Density) # Persons Per Residential Acre	19	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	2.15	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

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 $<sup>^1</sup>$  The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's Land Dedication Ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Stierlin Planning Area features a mix of established single- and multi-family residential neighborhoods, neighborhood shopping centers, and commercial/industrial areas along Shoreline Boulevard and Middlefield Road. The Stierlin Planning Area is above average in the percentage of land devoted to residential uses and slightly below average in residential density.

The park acreage per 1,000 residents is below the City standard (2.15 versus 3.00). The area is served by three mini-parks and two school sites that serve as neighborhood parks. Because the vast majority of open space in this planning area is owned by the school district, availability of open space in the Stierlin Planning Area could be limited by changing school district circumstances. School uses and needs would prevail over open space use.

The Willowgate Community Garden provides additional open space, but is only open to residents in Mountain View who have been assigned a garden plot. For that reason, the garden is not included in the calculation determining the amount of open space available in this planning area.

The City's relationship with the Mountain View Whisman School District is important to the preservation of open space and the continued improvement of recreational facilities for the community. The City is currently working with the School District on the design of a new athletic field complex at Crittenden Middle School. Amenities at the proposed new athletic field complex include an all-weather track, softball field, soccer, artificial turf for all weather play and lights. The City is also working with the School District to extend the Permanente Creek Trail from its current terminus at Rock Street to West Middlefield Road, which will provide a safe access to the trail for students and the surrounding neighborhood.

All of the Stierlin Planning Area is within a safe walking distance to a park or open space facility.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

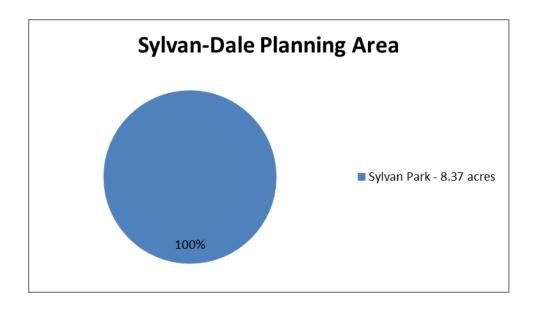
- Acquire land in the area bounded by Central Expressway, Moffett Boulevard, Middlefield Road and Highway 85 for development of a mini-park (see map in Appendix 11).
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports
  Organizations to explore the possibility of converting Crittenden Field to synthetic
  turf.

# V. Sylvan-Dale Planning Area

The Sylvan-Dale Planning Area is in the southeast sector of the City, bounded by Highway 237, Highway 85 and the Sunnyvale border. El Camino Real splits the neighborhood in two: Sylvan Avenue area to the north, with mostly single-family residences, and Dale Avenue area to the south, with mostly multi-family dwellings. The entire planning area is 378 acres, the second smallest planning area in the City.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

This area is served by one neighborhood park, Sylvan Park (8.37 acres), located on the north side of the planning area. The Stevens Creek Trail borders the west side of the planning area and connects the Dale Avenue portion of the planning area to Shoreline at Mountain View Park to the north and Cooper School/Park to the east. Activities at the neighborhood park include; horseshoes, tennis courts, group barbecue facilities, a children's play area, and picnicking. It serves the needs of those residents north of El Camino Real well. Additional park space is needed south of El Camino Real to serve the Dale Avenue neighborhood. The table in Appendix 9 provides additional information about park facilities in the Sylvan-Dale Planning Area.



## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

There is no other open space in the Sylvan-Dale Planning Area.

## **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to determine the open space needs of the planning area.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

• The Sylvan-Dale Planning Area is primarily residential, but includes some commercial and light industrial uses (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

#### **Residential Density:**

 Residential density is above average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

 More of the residential acreage in the area is devoted to multi-family homes than to single-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers are: Highway 85, El Camino Real and Highway 237 (see map in Appendix 10).
- With the extension of the Stevens Creek Trail into the Dale Avenue neighborhood, all of the Sylvan-Dale Planning Area is within a safe walking distance of a park or open space facility (see map in Appendix 10). The Stevens Creek Trail extension provides access to Cooper Park/School located to the west of Highway 85 and open space resources along the trail.

Planning Area Data Table

Line #	Description	Sylvan-Dale Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	6,396	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	1,030 (7%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	378	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 194 acres (51%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)
		Single-Family 88 acres (23%)	Single-Family 200 acres (31%)
		Total 282 acres (74%)	Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	8.37 (2%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	23	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	1.31	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

# **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is below the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 1.31 acres per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000.

<sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's land dedication ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Sylvan-Dale Planning Area is above average in the amount of residential area and is mostly multi-family residential with a mix of retail, service commercial, and light industrial along El Camino Real. The park acreage does not meet the City standard for number of acres per 1,000 residents (1.31 acres versus 3.00 acres). Due to the fact that the planning area is divided by El Camino Real, the neighborhood analysis is unique. The area north of El Camino Real is well served by Sylvan Park with 8.37 acres of open space. However, the southern section of the Sylvan-Dale Planning Area (Dale Avenue) is in need of additional open space.

Sylvan Park is developed on land that was purchased by the City from the School District (a closed school site). It should be noted that the sale agreement contains a clause that allows the District to reclaim a 3-acre portion of the park for the purpose of operating a public school, if ever needed. If this clause were exercised, it would reduce the number of open space acres from 8.37 to 5.37 and reduce the acreage per 1,000 residents from 1.31 acres to 0.84 acre.

Although publicly owned open space in the Dale Avenue portion of the area would be desirable, the neighborhood consists primarily of large apartment complexes and planned-unit single-family developments, all of which provide private open space to its residents.

The most recent extension of the Stevens Creek Trail ends at Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way providing an access point to the Dale Avenue neighborhood. The Stevens Creek Trail provides a corridor to Shoreline at Mountain View Park to the north and safe access to Cooper School/Park located to the west of Highway 85. Even with the trail extension, the Dale Avenue neighborhood is in need of additional open space and remains a recommendation of the Commission.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

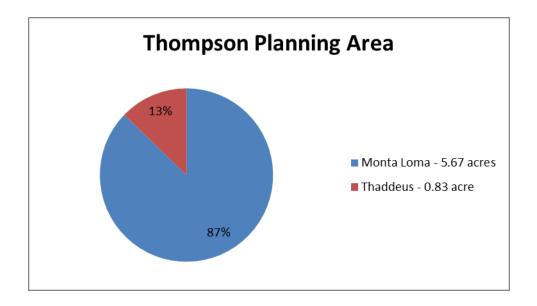
 Acquire land south of El Camino Real for development of a mini-park (see map in Appendix 11).

# V. THOMPSON PLANNING AREA

The Thompson Planning Area is on the west side of the City and is bounded by Central Expressway, San Antonio Road, Middlefield Road and Rengstorff Avenue. It is the smallest planning area with 225 acres and is primarily residential housing.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Thompson neighborhood is served by 6.50 acres of open space located at Monta Loma School and Thaddeus Mini-Park. All of the open space at Monta Loma is owned by the Mountain View Whisman School District. The field area at Monta Loma School is maintained by the City as part of a joint use agreement with the Mountain View Whisman School District for shared use of the play field after-school. Activities available at Monta Loma include baseball, soccer, football, picnicking, as well as a children's play area. Thaddeus accommodates children's play as well as more passive uses. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Thompson Planning Area.



#### **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

There is no other open space in the Thompson Planning Area.

## **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. These criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the Planning Area.

## Proportion of Land in Residential Use:

• The Thompson Planning Area is mostly residential in nature (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

• Residential density is well below the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

• The Thompson area consists mostly of single-family units as compared to multifamily (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers are the borders of the planning area. They include; San Antonio Road, Central Expressway, Rengstorff Avenue and Middlefield Road (see map in Appendix 10).
- All portions of the Thompson Planning Area are within a one-half-mile walking distance of a park or open space facility.

## Planning Area Data Table

Line #	Description	Thompson Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	2,541	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Total Population Under 19)	585 (4%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	225	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 37 acres (16%) Single Family 160 acres (71%) Total 197 acres (87%)	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%)  Single Family 200 acres (31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	6.50 (3%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	13	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	2.56	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

## **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is at average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 2.56 acres per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000 residents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's land dedication ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

The Thompson Planning Area is comprised of mostly residential housing with a mix of commercial, industrial and office space, particularly along the planning area borders. The planning area is above average in the amount of residential area and single-family homes. Accordingly, residential density is well below the City-wide average. The park acreage per 1,000 residents is below the City's standard (2.56 versus 3.00). The open space at Monta Loma School is included in this figure. Due to after school use of the fields and other facilities for school programs, public access to the open space is limited. Because the majority of the open space in the planning area is owned by the School District (87%), availability of open space could be limited by changing school district circumstances. School uses and needs would prevail over open space.

All open space resources within the Thompson Planning Area are available within a safe walking distance without having to cross a major traffic barrier. Thaddeus Park is within the Thompson Planning Area and is located on Middlefield Road along the border between the Thompson and the Rengstorff Planning Areas. Access to the park from the Thompson Planning Area is safe as there are no major traffic barriers. However, access to the park from the Rengstorff Planning Area is limited because of Middlefield Road. The Commission has recommended safe crossing improvements to Thaddeus Park which can be found under the "Rengstorff Planning Area" section of the Plan.

Because the majority of the open space is owned by school district, the Commission recommends acquiring additional open space in the Thompson Planning Area.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Acquire land for the development of a mini-park (see map in Appendix 11).

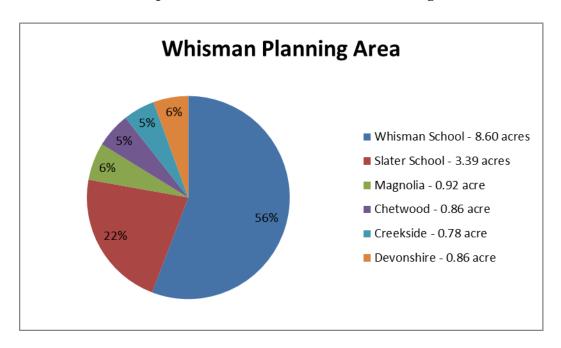
# V. WHISMAN PLANNING AREA

The Whisman Planning Area is in the northeast sector of the City in an area bounded by Highway 101, Highway 85, Highway 237, and the City of Sunnyvale. At 1,098 acres, it is the second largest planning area in the city.

#### **EXISTING FACILITIES**

The Whisman Planning Area is served by 15.41 acres of open space located primarily at Whisman and Slater Schools and at four mini-parks; Magnolia, Chetwood, Creekside, and Devonshire Parks. A large portion of the open space at Whisman School and all of the open space at Slater School is owned by the Mountain View Whisman School District. The City maintains the open space at both school sites through a joint use agreement with the School District. Activities at the school sites include youth and adult soccer, baseball, softball, and Special Events. Activities at the mini-parks include children's play areas and picnicking.

Devonshire Park was dedicated in January 2007 and is one of four mini-parks in the planning area. The Stevens Creek Trail borders the west side of the planning area and provides recreation opportunities for local residents and serves as a link to the northern and southern portions of Mountain View. The Whisman Transit-Oriented Development Trail provides a connection from the Middlefield Light Rail Station to the Stevens Creek Trail. The pie chart shown below and the table in Appendix 9 provide additional information about park facilities in the Whisman Planning Area.



## **OTHER OPEN SPACE**

There is no other open space in the Whisman Planning Area.

## **CRITERIA ASSESSMENT**

The following assessment is based on criteria presented and described earlier in this Plan. The criteria are used to help determine the open space needs of the planning area.

## **Proportion of Land in Residential Use:**

The Whisman Planning Area is a mix of commercial, industrial and residential uses.
 The majority of land use is non-residential (see Planning Area Data Table, next page, line 4).

## **Residential Density:**

• Residential density is above the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 6).

## **Proportion of Multi-Family Housing:**

• Most of the residential acreage in the area is devoted to multi-family homes than single-family homes (see Planning Area Data Table, line 4).

- Major traffic barriers are: Highway 85, Moffett Boulevard, Middlefield Road, Highway 101, Whisman Road, Ellis Street, Central Expressway, and Highway 237 (see map in Appendix 10).
- All portions of the Whisman Planning Area are located within a one-half-mile walking distance of a park or open space facility.

#### **Planning Area Data Table**

Line #	Description	Whisman Planning Area	Citywide Planning Area Average (excluding North Bayshore Planning Area)
1	2010 Census Population	8,627	8,175
2	2010 Population Under 19 (% of Population Under 19)	1,708 (12%)	1,614 (11%)
3	Size (Acres)	1,098	651
4	Residential Acres (% of Planning Area)	Multi-Family 364 acres (33%) Single-Family 23 acres	Multi-Family 202 acres (31%) Single-Family 200 acres
		(2%)  Total  387 acres  (35%)	(31%)  Total 402 acres (62%)
5	Open Space Acres (% of Planning Area)	15.41 (1%)	21.10 (3%)
6	Residential Density (# Persons Per Residential Acre)	22	20
7	Open Space Acres Per 1,000 Residents	1.79	City Standard <sup>1</sup> 3.0

#### **Current Amount of Open Space:**

- The percentage of open space acres is below the average for all planning areas (see Planning Area Data Table, line 5).
- Park acreage of 1.79 acres per 1,000 residents is below the City's overall standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000 residents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The overall City standard of providing at least 3.0 acres of open space per 1,000 residents is based on the City's land dedication ordinance (refer to Appendix 8).

#### **DISCUSSION**

The Whisman Planning Area contains a mix of general industrial, commercial and residential uses. There are a number of planned residential neighborhoods, transit oriented development, and established neighborhoods featuring a mix of multi-family and single-family homes. The Whisman Planning Area is below average in the percentage of land that is in residential use. Residential density is above average due to the higher number of multi-family versus single-family units located in this area. The park acreage per 1,000 residents does not meet the City standard (1.79 acres versus 3.00 acres). The open space at the school sites is included in this amount. Due to after school use of the fields and other facilities for school programs, public access to the open space at the school sites is limited.

All portions of the planning area have safe and convenient access to parks and open space. In addition, the area is well served by a variety of different park types, including two school neighborhood parks and four mini-parks. Also, many of the newer multifamily developments in the Whisman Planning Area provide private open space to its residents. However, because a large amount of open space in this planning area is owned by the Mountain View Whisman School District (50%), availability of open space in the Whisman Planning Area could be limited by changing school district circumstances. School uses and needs would prevail over open space use. Recently, Slater School was closed and the campus was leased to Google. The neighborhood continues to have access to the playing fields located at the Slater campus; however, access to the blacktop playground area has been reduced.

The Whisman Planning Area includes the Stevens Creek Trail along the western border in a north/south direction and the Whisman Transit Oriented Trail in an east/west direction connecting the neighborhood to open space resources and transit centers.

The City is currently conducting a study to determine possible residential use of the area south of Whisman Road. This area consists of approximately 48 acres of land loosely bounded by Ferguson Drive, Middlefield Road, Whisman Road, and Central Expressway. Potential residential development in this area may present an opportunity to acquire land for a neighborhood park.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

 Acquire land for development of a neighborhood park as part of the South Whisman development process.

# VI. TRAIL SYSTEMS

"Commonly we stride through the out-of-doors too swiftly to see more than the most obvious and prominent things. For observing nature, the best pace is a snail's pace."

Edwin Way Teale (1899-1980), Naturalist and writer

#### Mountain View General Plan Excerpt

Goal POS-6: An integrated system of multi-use trails connecting to key local and regional destinations and amenities.

- POS 6.1: Citywide network of pathways. Develop a citywide network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways to connect neighborhoods, employment centers, open space resources and major destinations within the City.
- POS 6.2: At-grade crossings. Minimize at-grade crossings of major roads when building new trails.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

One of the major themes of the General Plan's Parks, Open Space and Community Facilities Chapter is the development of a system of urban trails in Mountain View (Goal POS - 6). Urban trails are defined as continuous open space corridors. These corridors can offer scenic views, commute alternatives, and provide a safe corridor to connect key local and regional destinations and amenities. In addition, trails encourage recreation, improve health, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by providing active transportation links to neighborhoods, parks, transit and other destinations throughout Mountain View. Some trails are developed near or adjacent to natural areas that serve as wildlife habitat, such as Stevens Creek. Mountain View has been sensitive to balancing trail development and access to these wonderful open space areas with the important need to focus on natural habitat preservation. There is still much to be accomplished, and it is the intention of this Plan to ensure the further development of the urban trail system, now and into the future.

Because the trail system cuts across many planning areas, is part of a regional system, and, at least partially, depends on different funding sources, discussion of the trail system has been placed in this separate chapter of the Plan.

A complete Mountain View trail system is envisioned to consist of several trail types:

- Regional trails, such as the Bay Trail and the Stevens Creek Trail, provide connections to other communities.
- Local trails, such as Permanente and the Hetch-Hetchy, provide interconnections within Mountain View.
- Very localized mini-trails, or connections, such as the Whisman Transit-Oriented Development trail, facilitate access through neighborhoods, especially from neighborhoods that are deficient in open space.

#### TRAIL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

The City of Mountain View has a variety of possibilities when addressing the funding needs for trail development or improvement. Beyond what is mentioned in the "Funding Sources" section of this Plan located in the "Introduction Chapter", the City can approach more nontraditional sources for assistance. Such sources include pursuing conservation or public access easements, which allow public access over private properties for recreational purposes. Such easements can make it unnecessary to purchase and develop additional land. Secondly, as business grows around the trail area, large corporations (e.g., Microsoft, LinkedIn, and Google) have been interested in developing connecting trails in and around their office campuses, thus improving the trail system for business purposes, commuting and general public enjoyment.

#### TRAIL SYSTEMS

The five major trail systems in the City are: Stevens Creek Trail; Hetch-Hetchy Trail; the Bay Trail; Permanente Creek Trail; and the Whisman Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Trail. The table on the following page provides summary information about the trails, with detailed discussions of each below.

#### Stevens Creek Trail and Wildlife Corridor

The Stevens Creek Trail and wildlife corridor is a regional facility included in Santa Clara County's Master Plan. In Mountain View, the trail joins park and open space areas in a north-south greenbelt across the City. The partially completed trail provides the opportunity for hiking, biking and walking, and access to large meadows and trees not

existing elsewhere in the community. It also serves as an alternative means of nonauto transportation between residences and work sites. Additionally, it offers "creek" open space and wildlife habitat, an important aspect to urban living, as many creeks have been channeled or undergrounded.

For planning purposes, the trail is divided into seven completed reaches. Reaches 1 and 2, stretching from Shoreline at Mountain View to Whisman School, were completed by 1996 and have been extensively used by the public. With the opening of Reach 3 in 1999, between Whisman School and Landels School, the goal of connecting neighborhoods was substantially advanced. The section of the trail from Landels School to Yuba Drive was completed in 2002. The next reach of the trail, extending from Yuba Drive to El Camino Real, was completed in April, 2008. This extension includes a tunnel under El Camino Real. The next reach of the trail was completed in June 2009 and extends from El Camino Real to Sleeper Avenue. The last section of completed trail was dedicated in June of 2012 and extends from Sleeper Avenue to Dale/Heatherstone. The final portion of the trail within the City border will reach Mountain View High School.

#### TRAILS SUMMARY

Trail	Length	Direction of Travel	Status	Ownership
Stevens Creek	5.14 Miles Completed Portion Only	North- South	Trail completed between Shoreline at Mountain View and Dale Ave./Heatherstone Way.	City of Mountain View Santa Clara Valley Water District PG&E
Hetch- Hetchy	0.4 Mile	East-West	Connects the Ellis-Whisman- Middlefield industrial area to Stevens Creek Trail.	City of San Francisco
Bay Trail	2.25 Miles Completed Portion Only	East-West	Connection through Shoreline at Mountain View to the Sunnyvale Baylands completed.	City of Mountain View
Permanente Creek	1.17 Miles	North- South	Trail paved and completed between Shoreline at Mountain View and Rock Street. Extension to Rock Street, including bridge over Highway 101 and tunnel under Old Middlefield Way completed in 2013.	Santa Clara Valley Water District
Whisman Transit Oriented Development Trail	0.3 Mile	North- South	Trail provides an off-street pedestrian/bicycle path between North Whisman Road and Ellis Street.	Private property owners

Access to the trail for businesses located in the North Bayshore Area include the Microsoft campus at the end of La Avenida and the Google campuses on Charleston Road and Crittenden Lane.

A goal of the Plan is to work with other cities and agencies to develop a regional network of inter-linked trail systems. To meet this goal, the City is working with the cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Los Altos to develop a Stevens Creek Trail feasibility study to determine the next steps in the extension of the Trail. The purpose of the feasibility study is to provide a comprehensive report to the four cities that will assist them in determining next steps in narrowing feasible trail alternatives, selecting a preferred route and coordinating completion of the Stevens Creek Trail. The study reviewed existing trail reports, plans and policies, solicited community opinions, and

evaluated physical opportunities and constraints to trail development. This report identifies a broad range of trail alternatives based on existing plans and policies, community input, property ownership and physical conditions including biological, geological and hydrological processes of the creek corridor and traffic and circulation patterns of the roadway system. Much of the work undertaken to assess potential routes focused on the technical engineering and environmental challenges presented by the constrained landscape.

#### **Hetch-Hetchy Trail**

Hetch-Hetchy is a right-of-way crossing through Mountain View, from the Sunnyvale border near Highway 237 to the Los Altos border near San Antonio Road. Owned by the City of San Francisco, large pipes carrying water from the Hetch-Hetchy Reservoir are buried beneath its surface.

The right-of-way sometimes varies in width but is a minimum of 80 feet wide in all locations. Permanent buildings are not allowed directly over the pipes, but parking, landscaping, mini-parks, community gardens, etc. are allowed through lease arrangements. Examples of this include Whisman, Rex Manor and Klein Mini-Parks, and the San Antonio Shopping Center parking lot.

The City completed a new bicycle/pedestrian trail along the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way between Whisman Park and North Whisman Road. The Hetch-Hetchy Trail serves as a connection between the Stevens Creek Trail and Middlefield Light Rail Station. A feasibility study of extending the Hetch-Hetchy Trail was completed in May 2007. The study recommended that as private properties with current leases and improvements on the right-of-way develop, the City explore opportunities to extend the trail, focusing on the area between Escuela Avenue and Highway 85. Another area of possible development between Highway 85 and Moffett Boulevard would provide connection to the Stevens Creek Trail. The neighboring cities of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Sunnyvale also have utilized portions of the right-of-way for urban trail development.

#### **Bay Trail**

The San Francisco Bay Trail is an effort by many jurisdictions to link communities around the San Francisco Bay, primarily along the bay front. Spearheaded by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), some portions of the planned 400-mile trail (200 miles of Bay Trail and 200 miles of trail connections between the Bay Trail and the Ridge Trail) have been completed.

Mountain View opened one of the first Bay Trail segments in the early 1980s. The trail follows the pedestrian/bicycle path that runs in an east-west direction through Shoreline at Mountain View. To the west, it links with the trail system in Palo Alto. For a number of years, the City has participated in regional planning efforts to develop the segment of the trail between Shoreline at Mountain View and the Sunnyvale Baylands. That connection provides an important trail addition that allows area residents access from Stevens Creek Trail to Sunnyvale, Alviso and San Jose. This extension had been challenging due to the presence of Moffett Field. However, the acquisition of the former Cargill Salt Pond property by the Federal Government presented new opportunities for extension of the Bay Trail from Mountain View to Sunnyvale. Working in cooperation with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), United States Fish and Wildlife, the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, Sunnyvale and Moffett Field, the Bay Trail was completed in September 2010 and now provides a regional trail connection from the City of Palo Alto to the Sunnyvale Baylands.

#### **Permanente Creek Trail**

Permanente Creek runs through the City in a north-south direction from the Bay to the Los Altos border. As a result of urban development, much of the creek is contained in a narrow concrete channel or located underground between the Los Altos border and Highway 101. Therefore, opportunities for trail development along this stretch of the creek have not been explored.

In the North Bayshore Area, between Highway 101 and Shoreline at Mountain View, the creek has also been channeled but is contained by levees that offer greater width for trail development. In 1996, the City adopted the Permanente Creek Development Guidelines. The guidelines recommended that a trail be aligned on the wider levee on the east bank of the creek corridor. A native plant vegetation buffer was recommended on the west levee to provide wildlife habitat to mitigate the effects of human visitors. The all-weather paved trail envisioned by the guidelines has now been completed between Shoreline at Mountain View and Rock Street. The north end of the trail can be accessed at Shoreline at Mountain View, adjacent to the golf course clubhouse. At the south end, the trail can be accessed from both sides of Old Middlefield Way and at the terminus at Rock Street. There is also a trail access point at Amphitheatre Parkway. Construction was completed on the latest extension of the trail in December 2013 and extends the trail from Old Middlefield Way to Rock Street.

#### Whisman Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Trail

A pedestrian walkway and separate adjacent bicycle route, south and parallel of the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way, was constructed in 2000 as a condition of the TOD Permit for the commercial development at 465 North Whisman Road. The 0.3-mile trail provides an off-street pedestrian/bicycle path between North Whisman Road and Ellis Street.

#### **Charleston Retention Basin Trail**

The Charleston Retention Basin is located on the north side of Charleston Road, between Shoreline Boulevard and the Stevens Creek Trail levee. Currently, there is an unpaved trail around the basin. Preservation and improvement of this trail would continue to allow office workers and residents a short walking trail. A future connection to Stevens Creek Trail would allow an additional access point from the Trail to Shoreline Boulevard and points beyond.

#### **DISCUSSION**

In Mountain View, the trail systems are multi-purpose in their function and value. They serve as commute routes for residents and workers and provide recreational opportunities for nearby residents and the community at-large. They serve as wildlife habitat and migratory channels and provide connections between neighborhoods and park and open space resources. The trails are a tremendous resource and should be developed fully.

Trails fulfill an essential function in connecting Mountain View neighborhoods to each other. As pointed out in the Planning Area Assessments, the trails themselves, or additional access points to the trails, can open up access to parks and open space in a neighborhood that did not previously enjoy such a connection. This is especially important for neighborhoods that have been identified as being underserved in open space as additional park connections can relieve the need for new open space facilities.

Trails are also important in connecting Mountain View to regional resources. Linking Mountain View trails to regional trails and transit centers increases access to the parks and open space areas and increases non-vehicular mobility for the community.

Existing and envisioned trails in Mountain View have been and will continue to be developed using a variety of mechanisms. For example, since the City of Mountain View does not own all the land over which trails will pass, easements and other cooperative

arrangements with agencies such as the Santa Clara Valley Water District, PG&E and the San Francisco Water District are necessary to complete trail construction.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue developing a City-wide network of trails and pathways to connect neighborhoods to each other and to open space resources and trails.
- Continue development of the City's trail system for walking, biking, hiking and wildlife preservation, and other recreational opportunities in accordance with Mountain View City Code. Enhance and preserve native plantings and protect wildlife along trails and in open space areas.
- Explore the possibility of connecting the Stevens Creek, Permanente Creek, and Hetch Hetchy Trails to each other via trails and rights-of-way.
- Look for opportunities to add hydration systems and drinking fountains along trails and pathways.
- Continue construction of Stevens Creek Trail from Dale/Heatherstone to Mountain View High School.
- Explore the feasibility of improving the Stevens Creek Trail access point at Crittenden Lane to establish a more accessible and formal trailhead.
- Improve landscaping at Bonny/Beatrice Streets along the Hetch Hetchy corridor.
- Develop the Hetch Hetchy corridor from El Camino Real Fayette Drive.
- Explore the feasibility of maintaining the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way as pedestrian-accessible open space.
- Update the Hetch Hetchy Trail feasibility study.
- Explore the possibility of a safer crossing (potentially underground) at Charleston Road for the Permanente Creek Trail.
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District to extend the Permanente Creek Trail from Rock Street to West Middlefield Road.

- Explore the feasibility of maintaining the Permanente Creek right-of-way as a trail.
- Conduct a feasibility study for extending the Permanente Creek Trail to the southern border of Mountain View.
- Explore the feasibility of connecting the Charleston Retention Basin to the Stevens Creek Trail.
- Explore the feasibility of an east-west trail corridor from Sunnyvale to Palo Alto, south
  of Central Expressway and north of El Camino Real, to include consideration of the
  Caltrain corridor as a possible option.
- Explore the feasibility of improving the Bay Trail connection between the western and eastern sides of the Stevens Creek Trail.
- Work with other cities and governmental agencies to develop regional trails connecting Mountain View with other regional trails and open space.
- Explore all opportunities to connect the City's regional open space areas to the former Cargill Salt Ponds as they are returned to their natural state.
- Work with other cities and agencies to develop Stevens Creek Trail and the Bay Trail for the purpose of developing a regional network of interlinked trail systems.
- Develop trails and pathways to provide safe connections between transit centers and parks and open space areas.

# VII. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts." Rachel Carson (1907-1964), Writer, scientist and ecologist

The previous Parks and Open Space Plan was adopted in June 2008. Many recommendations contained in the 2008 Plan have been implemented. Several other projects are currently under way, and several more have been completed which were not included in the recommendations (e.g., the renovation of the Teen Center). A chart summarizing the implementation status of the 2008 Plan recommendations is included as Appendix 12. Below is a list of completed and current projects based on the 2008 Plan recommendations and other park-related projects not recommended in the prior Plan document.

#### 2008 Plan Completed Projects

- Designed and constructed a 0.38 acre mini-park, Del Medio Park, which was dedicated in November 2011. (San Antonio)
- Designed and constructed a 0.61 acre mini-park, Mariposa Park, which was dedicated in June 2012. (Central)
- Completed the landscaping element of the Vista Slope open space and adjacent section of the Permanente Creek Trail. (North Bayshore)
- Preserved the open space at Sleeper and Franklin Avenue as passive open space.
   (Grant)
- Installed a high visibility crosswalk with in-roadway warning lights and push buttons to provide a safe and improved crossing of Rengstorff Avenue to those persons living on the west side of Rengstorff Avenue, north of California Street. (San Antonio)
- Extended the Stevens Creek Trail to provide access to the open space located across Highway 85 by means of a pedestrian overcrossing. (Sylvan-Dale)
- Installed a crosswalk and improved signage for safe and convenient crossing on Phyllis Avenue to increase access to Bubb Park/School from the small residential area located on the east side of Phyllis Avenue.

- Constructed a pedestrian/bicycle bridge from the south end of Permanente Creek
   Trail across Highway 101. (Trails)
- Improved the public trail around the Charleston Retention Basin and improved access to the Stevens Creek Trail. (Trails)
- Completed development of the Bay Trail, particularly around Moffett Field to the Sunnyvale Baylands. (Trails)

#### 2008 Plan Projects Currently Under Way

- As part of the South Whisman development process, acquire land for the development of a neighborhood park. (Whisman)
- Continue the renovations of Rengstorff Park. (San Antonio)
- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports
   Organizations to explore the possibility of converting Crittenden Field to synthetic
   turf. (Stierlin)
- Continue to work with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the development of McKelvey Field and mini-park as part of the Permanente Creek flood retention project. (Miramonte)
- Design and construct the Shoreline Sports Complex at Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park. (North Bayshore)
- Improve access to Thaddeus Park through safe street crossings and other techniques. (Rengstorff)
- Improve access across Central Expressway to Rengstorff Park from the Rengstorff Planning Area. (Rengstorff)
- Continue development of the Stevens Creek Trail for biking, hiking and wildlife preservation. (Trails)
- Explore all opportunities to connect the City's regional open space areas to the Cargill Salt Ponds, as they are returned to their natural state. (Trails)

 Work with other cities and agencies to develop Stevens Creek Trail and the Bay Trail for the purpose of developing a regional network of inter-linked trail systems. (Trails)

#### Completed Park-Related Projects Not Included in the 2008 Plan Recommendations

- Acquired land for the development of a mini-park at 771 N. Rengstorff Avenue (Rengstorff)
- Completed the extension of the Permanente Creek Trail from Old Middlefield Way to Rock Street. (Stierlin)
- Enhanced the City's urban forest with the planting of 199 new street trees in Fiscal Year 2013-14. (City-wide)
- Created a new access point to the Stevens Creek Trail at El Camino Real and Dale/Heatherstone Way. (Sylvan-Dale)
- Expanded the number of fields available to Mountain View Youth Sports
  Organizations with the agreement with Google for use of GARfield Park. (North
  Bayshore)
- Installed restroom facilities for Youth Sports Organizations at Bubb Park/School. (Miramonte)

#### Ongoing Park-related Projects Not Included in the 2008 Plan Recommendations

- Design the Permanente Creek Trail crossing at Charleston Road and Amphitheatre Parkway. (North Bayshore)
- Design and construct the Permanente Creek Trail extension from Rock Street to West Middlefield Road. (Stierlin)
- Bonny Street/Beatrice Street beautification project of open space on the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way. (Trails)
- Complete construction of the new Teen Center. (Central)
- Work with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the design and construction of McKelvey Field and mini-park as part of the District's flood protection project. (Miramonte)

- Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District on a Master plan for the Crittenden Field/Whisman Sports Center site. (Stierlin)
- Construct Permanente Creek Trail crossings at Amphitheatre Parkway. (North Bayshore)
- Initiate a feasibility study of the Caltrain corridor. (Trails)
- Rengstorff Park Lighting Improvement project. (San Antonio)
- Fayette Area Park, Design. (San Antonio)
- The City is currently working with a developer to acquire land for a neighborhood park in the Whisman Planning Area. (Whisman)

APPENDIX 1
PARK/SCHOOL OPEN SPACE LOCATION, ACREAGE AND ACRES PER PERSON

Planning Area	2010 Population (Estimated)	Existing Parks/ School Sites	Type of Park	Total Open Space Acres	Open Space Acres Owned by City	Open Space Acres owned by School District	Acres per 1,000 persons
Central	11,318	Castro	School/Park	4.18	0.00	4.18	2.03
		Dana	Mini	0.42	0.42	0.00	
		Eagle Fairmont	Neighborhood Mini	5.17 0.34	5.17 0.34	0.00 0.00	
		Landels	School/Park	8.49	3.27	5.22	
		Mariposa	Mini	0.61	0.61	0.00	
		Mercy/Bush	Mini	0.65	0.65	0.00	
		Pioneer	Neighborhood	3.15	<u>3.15</u>	0.00	
				23.01	13.61	9.40	
Grant	5,424	Cooper	School/Park	11.01	5.19	5.82	6.34
		Huff	School/Park	6.50	0.00	6.50	
		Mountain	School	<u>16.86</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>16.86</u>	
		View High		34.37	5.19	29.18	
Miramonte	9,657	Gemello	Mini	0.48	0.48	0.00	6.42
		Bubb	School/Park	9.18	3.45	5.73	
		Cuesta	Community	32.56	32.56	0.00	
		Graham	School/Park	9.54 4.27	2.89	6.65 0.00	
		McKelvey Springer	Neighborhood School/Park	5.50	4.27 0.00	5.50	
		Varsity	Mini	0.48	0.48	0.00	
		varsity	IVIIIII	62.01	44.13	17.88	
North	817	Dog Park	Dog Park <sup>1</sup>	0.59	0.59	0.00	983.1
Bayshore	017	Charleston	Neighborhood	6.48	6.48	0.00	700.1
(Regional)		Shoreline	Regional	753.00	753.00	0.00	
( '6' ')		Stevens Creek	Regional				
		Trail	8	43.13 803.20	43.13 803.20	0.00	
Rengstorff	6,577	Sierra Vista 771 N.	Mini	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.31
		Rengstorff <sup>1</sup>	Mini	1.22 2.02	<u>1.22</u> 2.02	0.00	
San Antonio	13,951	Del Medio	Mini	0.38	0.38	0.00	1.34
		Klein	Mini	1.36	1.36	0.00	
		Rengstorff	Community	<u>16.92</u>	<u>16.92</u>	0.00	
			0.1.1/0	18.66	18.66		
Stierlin	9,083	Crittenden	School/Gym	7.72	00.0	7.72	2.15
		Jackson Rex Manor	Mini Mini	0.77 0.41	0.77 0.41	0.00 0.00	
		San Veron	Mini	2.08	2.08	0.00	
		Stevenson/	School/Park	2.00	2.00	0.00	
		Theuerkauf	School/Turk	8.54	<u>1.20</u>	<u>7.34</u>	
				19.52	$\frac{4.46}{4.46}$	15.06	
Sylvan/ Dale	6,396	Sylvan	Neighborhood	8.37	8.37	0.00	1.31
Thompson	2,541	Monta Loma	School/Park	5.67	0.00	5.67	2.56
•		Thaddeus	Mini	0.83	0.83	0.00	
				6.50	0.83	5.67	
Whisman	8,627	Whisman	School/Park	8.60	4.35	4.25	1.79
		Slater	School/Park	3.39	0.00	3.39	
		Magnolia	Mini	0.92	0.92	0.00	
		Chetwood	Mini	0.86	0.86	0.00	
		Creekside	Mini	0.78	0.78	0.00	
		Devonshire	Mini	<u>0.86</u>	<u>0.86</u>	0.00	
TOTAL w/	74 201			15.41	7.77	7.64	12.25
North Bayshore TOTAL w/o	74,391 73,574			993.07 189.87	908.24 105.04	84.83 84.83	13.35
TOTAL W/O		1	1	107.07	105.04	04.03	2.58 93

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>mathrm{To}$  be developed.

#### PLANNING AREA POPULATION AND OPEN SPACE DATA

Planning Area	Size (Acres)	Resid	lential <i>A</i>	Acres <sup>1</sup>	Open Space Acres	Open Space Acres per 1,000	Acres Needed	2010 Population <sup>3</sup>	2010 Population under 19
		MF	SF	All		Persons <sup>2</sup>			
Central	784	260	258	518	23.01	2.03	10.94	11,318	2,110
Grant	695	33	468	501	34.37	6.34	0.00	5,424	1,274
Miramonte	953	114	582	696	62.01	6.42	0.00	9,657	2,330
North Bayshore	1,968	38	0	38	803.20	983.1	0.00	817	150
Rengstorff	465	244	0	244	2.02	0.31	17.71	6,577	1,136
San Antonio	505	276	29	305	18.66	1.34	23.19	13,951	2,857
Stierlin	754	297	190	487	19.52	2.15	7.73	9,083	1,499
Sylvan-Dale	378	194	88	282	8.37	1.31	10.82	6,396	1,030
Thompson	225	37	160	197	6.50	2.56	1.12	2,541	585
Whisman	1,098	364	23	387	15.41	1.79	10.47	8,627	1,708
TOTAL	7,825	1,857	1,798	3,655	993.07	13.35		74,391	14,679
Total without North Bayshore <sup>4</sup>	5,857	1,819	1,798	3,617	189.87	2.58	30.855	73,574	14,529
Average without North Bayshore <sup>4</sup>	651	202	200	402	21.10	2.58	3.43	8,175	1,614

MF = Multi-Family; SF = Single-Family; All = Total of MF and SF. These calculations are based on current land use designations. In some instances there may be small amounts of residential use on parcels not planned for housing.
 City Standard is 3.0 acres per 1,000 residents.

Based on the 2010 Census data.

- 4. The North Bayshore is excluded because this area contains all of the City's regional open space, but has very little housing and population. The large open space acreage tends to skew the picture of the needs by planning area. 43.13 acres of regional open space from Stevens Creek Trail is included.
- Not cumulative. Based on the total acres needed to meet the goal of 3 acres per 1,000 residents, excluding the North Bayshore.

#### **CALCULATIONS**

Planning Area	# Persons per Residential Acre	% of Residential Acreage within Planning Area <sup>1</sup> MF SF All		% Open Space Acreage in Planning Area	% Population Under 19	
Central	22	33	33	66	2.9	18.6
Grant	11	5	67	72	4.9	23.5
Miramonte	14	12	61	73	6.5	24.1
N. Bayshore	22	2	0	2	40.8	18.4
Rengstorff	27	52	0	52	0.4	17.3
San Antonio	46	54	6	60	3.7	20.5
Stierlin	19	39	25	64	2.6	16.5
Sylvan-Dale	23	51	23	74	2.2	16.1
Thompson	13	16	71	87	2.9	23.0
Whisman	22	33	2	35	1.4	19.8
Average without North Bayshore <sup>2</sup>	20	31	31	62	3.2	19.7

<sup>1.</sup> MF = Multi-Family; SF = Single-Family; All = Total of MF and SF. These calculations are based on current land use designations. In some instances, there may be small amounts of residential use on parcels not planned for housing.

<sup>2.</sup> The North Bayshore is excluded from the average because this area contains all of the City's regional open space, but has very little housing and population. The large open space acreage tends to skew the picture of the "average" planning area. 43.13 acres of regional open space from Stevens Creek Trail is included.

#### OPEN SPACE NEEDS BY PLANNING AREA<sup>1</sup>

Planning Area	Proportion Residential	Residential Density	Proportion Multi- Family	Safe Walking Distance	Amount of Open Space	Need Score
San Antonio	6	10	10	10	9	45
Sylvan-Dale	8	4	9	5	9	35
Rengstorff	4	5	9	6	10	34
Stierlin	6	3	7	7	8	31
Central	7	4	6	2	8	27
Thompson	10	2	3	1	7	23
Whisman	1	4	6	3	8	22
Miramonte	8	2	3	2	1	16
Grant	8	1	1	1	2	13

The lowest possible Need Score is 5 and the highest is 50. The higher the score, the greater the need for open space in the planning area. For each criterion, Planning Areas are assigned a score of 1 through 10, with 1 indicating the least need and 10 indicating the greatest need. The criteria scores are defined below:

**Proportion Residential** — *based on percentage of Planning Area that is residential* (average of all Planning Areas — excluding North Bayshore—is 62% residential)

<u>Score</u>	% Residential	<u>Planning Area</u>
10	84 - 89	Thompson
9	78 – 83	
8	72 – 77	Sylvan-Dale, Miramonte, Grant
7	66 – 71	Central
6	60 - 65	Stierlin, San Antonio
5	54 - 59	
4	48 – 53	Rengstorff
3	42 - 47	-
2	36 - 41	
1	30 - 35	Whisman

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The North Bayshore Planning Area was not included in the needs assessment scoring as this area contains the City's regional open space with very little residential population and inclusion would skew results.

Residential Density – based on number of persons living in the residentially zoned portions of the Planning Area (average residential density of all Planning Areas is 20 persons per acre)

<u>Score</u>	Persons Per Acre	<u>Planning Area</u>
		Ç
10	44 – 47	San Antonio
9	40 - 43	
8	36 - 39	
7	32 - 35	
6	28 - 31	
5	24 - 27	Rengstorff
4	20 - 23	Whisman, Central, Sylvan-Dale
3	16 - 19	Stierlin
2	12 - 15	Thompson, Miramonte
1	8 - 11	Grant

**Proportion of Multi-Family Housing** — based on percentage of multi-family housing in the *Planning Area* (average for all Planning Areas is 31%)

<u>Score</u>	<u>% Multi-Family</u>	<u>Planning Area</u>
10	54 – 59	San Antonio
9	48 – 53	Sylvan-Dale, Rengstorff
8	42 – 47	,
7	36 - 41	Stierlin
6	30 - 35	Central, Whisman
5	24 – 29	
4	18 - 23	
3	12 – 17	Miramonte, Thompson
2	6 - 11	•
1	0 - 5	Grant

Safe and Comfortable Walking Distance – based on percentage of residential area within Planning Area that is not within one-half-mile of a park or open space area (average for all Planning Areas is 11.3%)

<u>Score</u>	% of Area	Planning Area
10	33 - 36	San Antonio
9	29 - 32	
8	25 – 28	
7	21 - 24	Stierlin
6	17 - 20	Rengstorff
5	13 - 16	Sylvan-Dale
4	9 – 12	•
3	5 - 8	Whisman

2	2 – 4	Miramonte, Central
1	0 - 1	Grant, Thompson

Amount of Open Space — based on the number of open space acres per 1,000 persons in the *Planning Area* (City Average for open space acres is 2.58 acres per 1,000)

Acres per 1,000	Planning Area
0.10 - 0.79 0.80 - 1.49	Rengstorff Sylvan-Dale, San Antonio
1.50 – 2.19	Whisman, Central, Stierlin
2.20 - 2.89	Thompson
2.90 - 3.59	
3.60 - 4.29	
4.30 - 4.99	
5.00 - 5.69	
5.70 - 6.39	Grant
6.40 - 7.09	Miramonte
	0.80 - 1.49 1.50 - 2.19 2.20 - 2.89 2.90 - 3.59 3.60 - 4.29 4.30 - 4.99 5.00 - 5.69 5.70 - 6.39

# Summary - Park Land Dedication Fees Committed to CIP Projects Fiscal Year 2009-10 to Fiscal Year 2013-14

Project	CIP#	Committed Fees Applied
Future Open Space Acquisition		
Central Area Open Space Acquisition	US <sup>1</sup>	\$2,109,720
Rengstorff Area Open Space Acquisition	US	\$2,049,860
San Antonio Area Open Space Acquisition	US	\$3,172,540
Sylvan-Dale Area Open Space Acquisition	US	\$2,718,000
Thompson Area Open Space Acquisition	US	\$761,414
Open Space Acquisition	US	\$829,659
Subtotal:		\$11,641,192
Park Development		. , ,
771 N. Rengstorff Park, Design	15-41	\$235,000
771 N. Rengstorff Park, Construction	16-39	\$1,500,000
Fayette Park, Design	13-36	\$560,000
Fayette Park, Construction	16-32	\$1,650,000
South Whisman Park , Design	16-30	\$835,000
South Whisman Park, Construction	17-29	\$1,279,818
Mariposa and Del Medio Parks Development	09-44	\$112,000
Landels Park Restroom	13-34	\$311,349
Subtotal:		\$6,483,167
Trail Development		
Permanente Creek Trail Extension, Old Middlefield		
to Rock Street	12-35	\$189,727
Stevens Creek Trail Access Point	11-35	\$120,000
Permanente Creek Trail Extension - Rock Street to		,
W. Middlefield	15-28	\$278,000
Permanente Creek Trail Feasibility Study - W.		· · ·
Middlefield to McKelvey Park	16-36	\$42,000
Stevens Creek Trail Extension - Dale/Heatherstone		+ /
to MVHS	US	\$483,060
Subtotal:		\$1,112,787
Recreation Facility Rehabilitation		. , ,
Rengstorff Park Master Plan	09-24	\$64,000
Rengstorff Park Skate Park	12-34	\$23,500
Teen Center - The View Rehabilitation	12-36	\$2,062,176
Rengstorff Park Lighting Improvments	15-42	\$730,000
Rengstorff Community Center, Design	15-43	\$2,900,000
Rengstorff Community Center, Construction	18-29	\$5,811,157
Subtotal:		\$11,590,833
TOTAL:		\$30,827,980
1. US = Unscheduled.		

#### LOCATIONS OF FUTURE POTENTIAL HOUSING UNITS

Source: Mountain View Community Development Department, August 2014

Area	Total Number of New Units
<u>Central</u>	
1720 W. El Camino Real	162
1616 W. El Camino Real	66
231-235 Hope Street	6
365 Villa Street	12
605 Castro Street	8
445 Calderon Avenue	<u>18</u>
Total Central Planning Area	272
Grant	
1991 Sun-Mor Avenue	13
Total Grant Planning Area	13
Miramonte	
1701 W. El Camino Real	24
1581 W. El Camino Real	22
1101 W. El Camino Real	52
801 W. El Camino Real	164
Total Miramonte Planning Area	262
Rengstorff	
827 N. Rengstorff Avenue	24
819 N. Rengstorff Avenue	49
858 Sierra Vista Avenue	3
1951 Colony Street	33
1958 Rock Street	7
2392 Rock Street	2
111 N. Rengstorff Avenue	84
1946 San Luis Avenue	6
1998-2024 Montecito Avenue	12
Total Rengstorff Planning Area	220
San Antonio	
420 San Antonio Road	373
2645-2655 Fayette Drive	28
2650 W. El Camino Real	193
1984 W. El Camino Real	160
Mora-Ortega	85
Total San Antonio Planning Area	839
Stierlin	
100 Moffett Boulevard	<u>184</u>
Total Stierlin Planning Area	184

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Area	Total Number of New Units
Sylvan-Dale	
865 E. El Camino Real	150
525 E. Evelyn Avenue	<u>70</u>
Total Sylvan-Dale Planning Area	220
Thompson	
Total Thompson Planning Area	0
Whisman	
209-405 W. Evelyn Avenue	65
111 - 123 Fairchild Drive	12
115 Evandale Avenue	6
277 Fairchild Drive	30
450 N. Whisman Drive	37
135 Ada Avenue	59
129 Ada Avenue	4
137 Easy Street	19
167 N. Whisman Road	2
Pacific Drive	16
Ferguson Road	<u>584</u>
Total Whisman Planning Area	834
Total of New Housing Units Proposed	2,844

# PARKS AND TRAILS BY CATEGORY/LOCATION

Park	Type	Location
Chetwood Park	Mini	Chetwood Avenue
Creekside Park	Mini	Easy Street & Gladys Avenue
Dana Park	Mini	Dana Street & Oak Street
Del Medio	Mini	Del Medio Avenue
Devonshire	Mini	Devonshire Avenue
Fairmont Park	Mini	Fairmont Avenue & Bush Street
Gemello Park	Mini	Marich Way & Solana Court
Jackson Park	Mini	Jackson Street & Stierlin Road
Klein Park	Mini	Ortega Avenue & California Street
Magnolia Park	Mini	Magnolia Avenue & Whisman Park Drive
Mercy/Bush Park	Mini	Mercy Street & Bush Street
Rex Manor Park	Mini	Farley Street & Central Expressway
San Veron Park	Mini	San Veron Avenue & Middlefield
		Road
Sierra Vista Park	Mini	Plymouth Street & Sierra Vista
		Avenue
Thaddeus Park	Mini	Middlefield Road & Independence
		Drive
Mariposa	Mini	Mariposa Avenue
Varsity Park	Mini	Duke Way & Jefferson Drive
Charleston Park	Neighborhood	Charleston Road & Amphitheatre
		Parkway
Eagle Park	Neighborhood	Church Street & Shoreline Boulevard
McKelvey Park	Neighborhood	Miramonte Avenue & Park Drive
Pioneer Park	Neighborhood	Church Street & Castro Street
Sylvan Park	Neighborhood	Sylvan Avenue & Devoto Street
Rengstorff Park	Community	Rengstorff Avenue & Central
		Expressway
Cuesta Park	Community	Cuesta Drive & Grant Road
Shoreline at Mountain View	Regional	North End of Shoreline Boulevard
Stevens Creek Trail	Regional Trail	Parallels Highway 85
Bay Trail	Regional Trail	East-west trail through Shoreline at Mountain View
Hetch Hetchy Trail	Local Trail	Whisman Park to North Whisman Road
Permanente Creek Trail	Local Trail	Shoreline at Mountain View to Rock Street
Whisman TOD Trail	Local Trail	North Whisman Road & Ellis Street
Deer Hollow Farm	Facility/	St. Joseph Avenue – City of Los Altos
	Environmental Center	
Dog Park	Facility	North end of Shoreline Boulevard
Mountain View Community	Facility	Rengstorff Avenue & Central
Center		Expressway
Mountain View Senior Center	Facility	Escuela Avenue & California Street

Park	Type	Location
Mountain View Teen Center	Facility	Escuela Avenue & California Street
Mountain View Sports	Facility	Castro Street & Miramonte Avenue
Pavilion		
Whisman Sports Center	Facility	Middlefield Road & Terra Bella
		Avenue
Bubb School/Park	Public School/Park	Barbara Avenue & Montalto Drive
Castro School/Park	Public School/Park	Toft Street & Latham Street
Cooper School/Park	Public School/Park	Eunice Avenue & Villa Nueva Way
Crittenden Middle	Public School/Park	Rock Street & Sierra Vista Avenue
School/Sports Complex		
Graham Middle	Public School/Park	Castro Street & Miramonte Avenue
School/Sports Complex		
Huff School/Park	Public School/Park	Martens Avenue & Grant Road
Landels School/Park	Public School/Park	Dana Street & Calderon Avenue
Monta Loma School/Park	Public School/Park	Thompson Avenue & Laura Lane
Mountain View High School	Public School/Park	Truman Avenue & Bryant Avenue
Slater School/Park	Public School/Park	Gladys Avenue & Whisman Road
Springer School/Park	Public School/Park	El Monte Avenue & Springer Road
Theuerkauf School/Stevenson	Public School/Park	San Luis Avenue & Burgoyne Street
Park		
Whisman School/Park	Public School/Park	Easy Street & Middlefield Road
Senior Garden	Community Garden	Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way at
		Crisanto Avenue & Escuela Avenue
Willowgate Garden	Community Garden	End of Andsbury Avenue

#### CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW-PARKS DESIGNATIONS

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Desirable Site Characteristics
Mini-Park	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific groups such as children or senior citizens.	Serves residents within one-half mile.	Up to 3 acres	Within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse developments or housing for the elderly.
Neighborhood Park	A higher-intensity recreation area providing play areas as well as open turf for athletics.	Serves residents within one mile.	3 to 15 acres	Suited for more intense use. Easily accessible to neighborhood population—geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a schoolpark facility.
Community Park and/or Recreational Facility	Areas of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting and picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending upon site suitability and community need.	Serves the entire City.	15 to 50 acres (Acreage refers to parks only, not including recreational facilities which may vary in size.)	May include natural features such as water bodies and areas suited for intense use; accessible to the community by walking, biking or driving.
Regional Park	Area of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping and trail uses; may include play areas.	Serves a population beyond the City limits.	Over 50 acres	Contiguous to or encompassing natural resources; accessible to the community by walking, biking or driving.

#### **OPEN SPACE STANDARDS**

The Plan's standard of 3 acres per 1,000 persons is adopted from the City's Park Land Dedication Ordinance. This Ordinance requires developers to dedicate (or pay an equivalent fee in lieu of land dedication, as discussed in Chapter 1 – Funding Sources), at least 3 acres of park land for each 1,000 persons who will live in any new housing project.

The City's Park Land Dedication Ordinance, in turn, adopted the 3 acres per 1,000 persons standard from the Quimby Act. The Quimby Act (Government Code Section 66477) is the State law that enables communities to require the dedication of park land or in-lieu fees to offset the impacts of new residential development. The Act states that the required dedication or fee cannot exceed the amount necessary to provide 3 acres of park area per 1,000 persons residing within the new residential development.

Although the Quimby Act and, therefore, the open space standard, only applies to newly developed residential projects, for the purposes of this Plan, the standard will be used to help evaluate open space needs throughout the City. While it would be ideal to meet the standard, this may not be realistic in a city as developed as Mountain View. Instead, the standard is used in this Plan to help measure open space needs, but equal consideration is given to the other criteria, which evaluate location and accessibility.

The concept of using a "level of service" (LOS) ratio to represent the minimum amount of ground space needed to meet the park and recreation demands of the citizens of a community has been in use for quite some time. In the recent past, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) was in the practice of publishing LOS standards. This practice has since been replaced by the belief that every community has such unique qualities and needs that it is more desirable for each community to establish its own needs. The most recent guidelines issued by the NRPA provide information for a somewhat time- and resource-intensive process for developing community-specific standards. The 3 acres per 1,000 persons standard used in the Quimby Act is likely based on an NRPA guideline in place at the time the Act was adopted.

A recent sampling of nearby Bay Area communities indicates the standards currently in use by these communities:

3 acres per 1,000
3 acres per 1,000
5 acres per 1,000
5 acres per 1,000
3 acres per 1,000
3.5 acres per 1,000
3.0 acres per 1,000
5.0 acres per 1,000

The cities that use park standards do not necessarily have park acreage that equals the city standard. Park standards are used as guidelines, similar to how they are used in this Plan.

Park Sites and Facilities	Auditorium	Barbecue Facilities	Barbecue Facil.	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Bocce Ball Court	Children's play	Community	Environmental	Football/Soccer	Gymnasium	Horseshoe Area	Indoor Activities	Meeting Rooms	Nature Preserve	Off-leash Dog Site	Passive Area	Picnic Area	Restrooms	Softball Field	Swimming Pool	Tennis Courts	Trail Access	Outdoor Volleyball	Plaza	Water Slide	Skate Park	Batting Cage	Bicycle Racks	Track	Sailing Lake	Golf Course
Bubb School/Park		•		•	•					•		•				•	•	•		•				•								
Castro School/Park					•		•			•							•	•						•								
Charleston Park																	•		•													
Chetwood Park																	•	•														
Civic Center Plaza																									•							
Centennial Plaza							•										•	•							•							
Cooper Park				•			•			•						•	•		•	•		•							•			
Creekside Park							•										•	•					•						•			
Crittenden School/Whisman Sports				•	•					•	•		•						•	•				•								
Center																															$\perp$	
Cuesta Park		•	•			•	•					•				•	•	•	•			•			•				•		$\perp$	
Dana Park																	•															
Deer Hollow Farm									•						•			•	•													
Del Medio Park							•										•	•											•			
Dog Park																•																
Devonshire Park							•										•	•											•			
Eagle Park/Pool							•			•						•	•	•	•		•								•			
Fairmont Park							•										•	•											•			
Gemello Park							•										•	•														
Graham School/MV Sports Pavilion				•						•	•								•	•				•						•		
Huff School/Park				•	•		-			•								•		•												

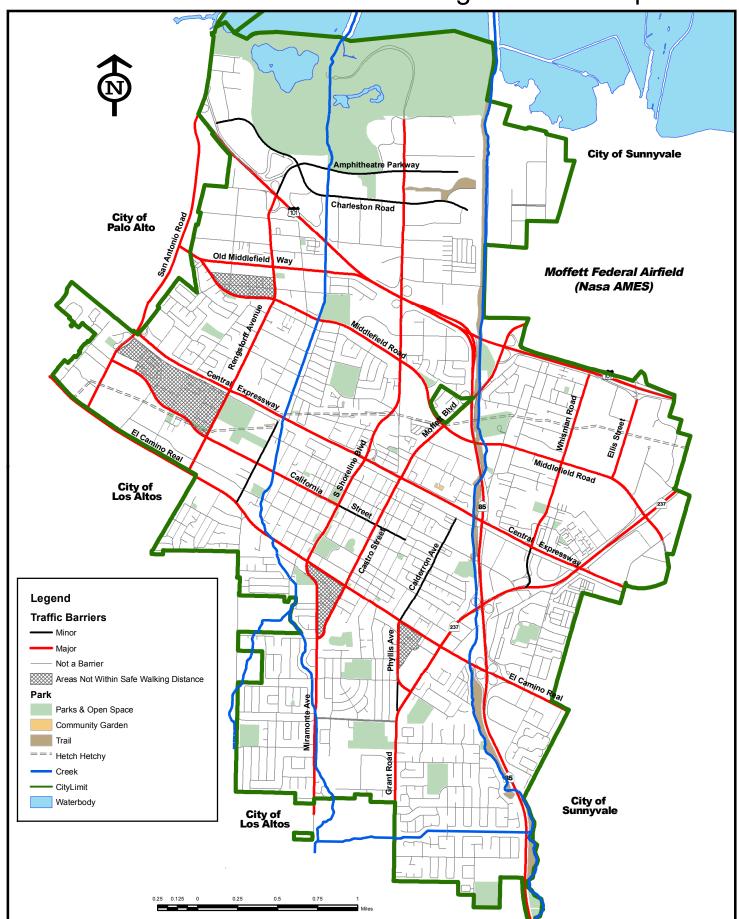
Park Sites and Facilities (Continued)	Auditorium	Barbecue Facilities	Barbecue Facil. Group	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Bocci Ball Court	Children's Play Equip.	Community Garden	Environmental Area	Football/Soccer Field	Gymnasium	Horseshoe Area	Indoor Activities	Meeting Rooms	Nature Preserve	Off-leash Dog Site	Passive Area	Picnic Area	Restrooms	Softball Field	Swimming Pool	Tennis Courts	Trail Access	Outdoor Volleyball	Plaza/concrete pad		Skate Park	Batting Cage	Bicycle Racks	Track	Sailing Lake	Golf Course
Jackson Park							•										•	•														
Klein Park					•		•										•	•														
Landels School/Park				•			•			•							•			•			•									
Magnolia Park																	•															
Mariposa Park							•		•								•	•														
Mckelvey Park				•												•			•										•			
Mercy-Bush Park							-										•	•											•			
Monta Loma School/Park				•	•		•			•							•	•											•			
Mountain View High School				-	•					•	•								•		•	•		•								
Mountain View Senior Center	•												•	•			•		•										•			
Pioneer Park																	•															
Rengstorff Park/Community Center	•	•	•	•	•		•			•			•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		•			
Rex-Manor Park							•										•	•														
San Veron Park					•		•										•	•						•								
Shoreline at Mountain View									•						•		•	•	•				•						•		•	•
Senior Garden								•																								
Sierra Vista Park							•										•	•											•			

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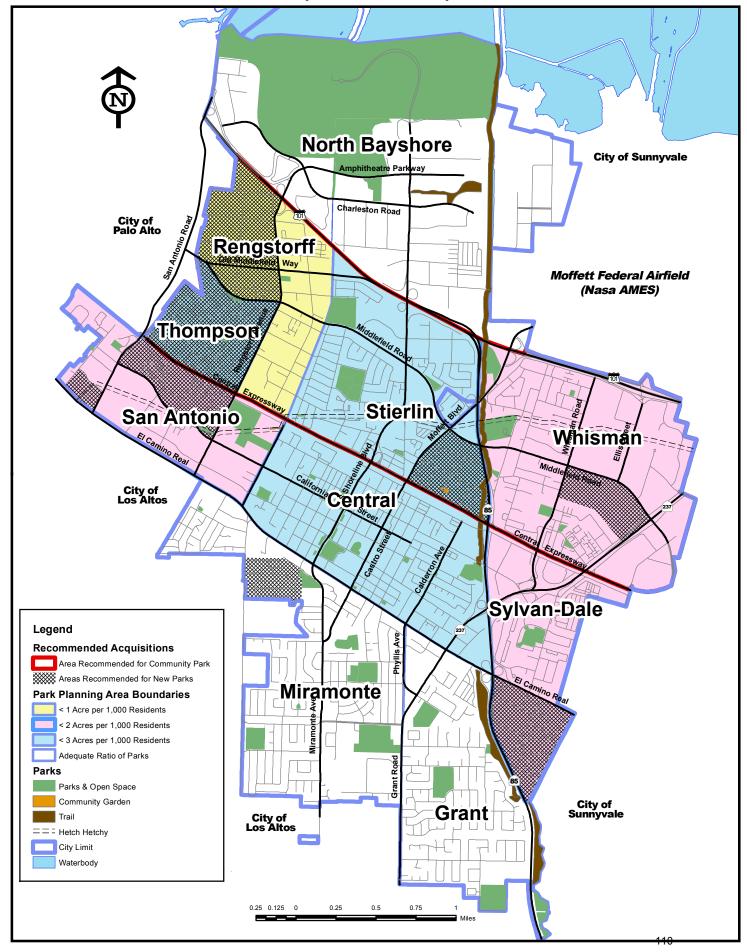
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Slater School/Park				•	•		•		•								•		•												
Springer School					•		•												•												
Stevenson Park				•	•		•									•	•	•	•		•						•	•			
Sylvan Park			•				•		•		•					•	•	•			•										
Teen Center												•						•													
Thaddeus Park							•									•	•														
Varsity Park					•		•									•	•														
Whisman School/Park			•		•		•								•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•					•			
Willowgate Garden								•																							

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# Traffic Barriers and Safe Walking Distance Map



# **Acquisition Map**



# IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTED	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	PLANNING AREA	COMMENTS	STATUS IN 2014 PLAN
		Increa		n Space		
<ul> <li>Acquire land in the mid-section of the San Antonio Planning Area for development of a mini- park, preferably on the north side of California Street between Showers Drive, Central Expressway and Rengstorff Avenue.</li> </ul>			•	San Antonio	Staff is looking for possible locations for a mini-park.	Retained
<ul> <li>Acquire land in the Dale neighborhood for development of a mini-park.</li> </ul>			•	Sylvan-Dale	Staff is looking for possible locations for a mini-park.	Revised and retained
Acquire land in the area bounded by Hwy 101, Rengstorff Av., San Antonio Road and Middlefield Road (preferably adjacent to the City-owned parcel at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Reinert Road) for development of a mini-park.			•	Rengstorff	Staff is looking for possible locations for a mini-park.	Retained
<ul> <li>Acquire land in the area bounded by Central Expressway, Moffett Blvd., Middlefield Rd. and Hwy 85 for development of a mini-park.</li> </ul>			•	Stierlin	Staff is looking for possible locations for a mini-park.	Retained
As part of the Mayfield Mall development process, acquire land for the development of a neighborhood park.			•	Thompson	The Mayfield Mall development project has been discontinued.	Deleted
As part of the South Whisman development process, acquire land for the development of a neighborhood park.		•		Whisman	The City is currently working with a developer to acquire 3-acres of open space.	Revised and retained

RECOMMENDATION  • Explore possible open space uses for the County vector site and the	IMPLEMENTED	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	PLANNING AREA Whisman	COMMENTS  The site has been designated for	STATUS IN 2014 PLAN Deleted
Caltrans property adjacent to Hwy 101 if the site provides unsuitable for gateway/retail purposes.					retail purposes.	
	Im	prove E	xisting	Open Space		
<ul> <li>Develop the Del Medio site as a mini-park.</li> </ul>	•			San Antonio	Del Medio Park was dedicated in November 2011.	Completed
Continue the renovation of Rengstorff Park.		•		San Antonio	Rengstorff Park Master Plan was adopted by Council in March 2014.	Master Plan Completed. Begin renovation projects.
<ul> <li>Work with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Youth Sports Organizations to explore the possibility of converting Callahan and Crittenden Fields to synthetic turf.</li> </ul>		•		Stierlin	Working with the MVWSD on the redevelopment of Crittenden Field as part of the District's Master Plan.	Revised and retained
<ul> <li>Develop the Mariposa Avenue/West Dana Street site as a mini-park.</li> </ul>	•			Central	Mariposa Park was dedicated in June 2012.	Completed
<ul> <li>Design and construct Cuesta Park Annex consistent with the approved Master Plan.</li> </ul>			•	Miramonte	The community supported Cuesta Park Annex to remain undeveloped.	Deleted
<ul> <li>Work with the youth sports organizations to explore the possibility of converting McKelvey Field to synthetic turf.</li> </ul>		•		Miramonte	Working with the Santa Clara Valley Water District on the redevelopment of McKelvey Field.	Revised and retained
<ul> <li>Explore the development of athletic fields.</li> </ul>		•		North Bayshore	The Shoreline Sports Complex project is under construction.	Revised and retained
<ul> <li>Complete the landscaping element of the Vista Slope open space and adjacent section of Permanente Creek Trail.</li> </ul>	•			North Bayshore		Completed

				Э			
RECO	OMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTED	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	PLANNING AREA	COMMENTS	STATUS IN 2014 PLAN
Preserve Existing Open Space							
So Ca sp	etain City-owned parcels on buth Shoreline Blvd. and alifornia St. as visual open bace and develop a conceptual an for landscaping the parcels.			•	Central		Revised and retained
If wind All join Mean All in the second	possible, develop an agreement ith the Mountain View Los ltos Union High District for int use of the open space at fountain View High School for ublic use.			•	Grant		Retained
	reserve open space at Sleeper ad Franklin Avenues.	•			Grant		Completed
Provide Access to Open Space							
cre ine Re liv Re	rovide a safer and improved ossing of Rengstorff Avenue to crease accessibility of engstorff Park to those persons ving on the west side of engstorff Avenue, north of alifornia Street.	•			San Antonio	Installed high visibility crosswalk with inroadway warning lights and push buttons.	Completed
the	nprove access to new parks at e Mayfield Mall site through onstruction of an under-crossing Central Expressway.			•	San Antonio	The Mayfield Mall development project has been discontinued.	Deleted
<ul><li>Pr</li><li>op</li><li>Hi</li><li>Tr</li></ul>	rovide access to the City-owned ben space located across ighway 85 along Stevens Creek. rail by means of a pedestrian vercrossing.	•			Sylvan-Dale		Completed
th	nprove access to Thaddeus Park rough safe street crossings and her techniques.		•		Rengstorff	Conducted a traffic survey and added signage. Will continue to evaluate.	Retained
Ex fro	nprove access across Central expressway to Rengstorff Park om the Rengstorff Planning rea.		•		Rengstorff	Improved street lights and signage across Central Expressway. Will continue to evaluate.	Retained

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTED	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	PLANNING AREA	COMMENTS	STATUS IN 2014 PLAN
Collaborate with the Mountain View Whisman School District to provide safe access across Castro Street to Graham Middle School from the residential area bordered by El Camino Real, Castro Street and Miramonte Avenue.			•	Miramonte		Revised and retained
Provide a safe and convenient crossing on Phyllis Ave. to allow access to Bubb School/Park from the small residential area located on the east side of Phyllis Ave.	•			Grant		Completed
<ul> <li>Provide access to the City-owned open space located along Stevens Creek.</li> </ul>	•			Grant		Completed
<ul> <li>Continue construction of Stevens Creek Trail from El Camino Real to Mountain View High School</li> </ul>			•	Trail System		Retained
		Develo	p Trail	Systems		
Continue development of     Stevens Creek Trail for biking,     hiking and wildlife preservation.		•		Trail System	Two extensions of the trail completed from El Camino Real to Dale/ Heatherstone.	Revised and retained
<ul> <li>Develop the Hetch-Hetchy corridor in reaches for biking, hiking and other recreational opportunities.</li> </ul>			•	Trail System		Revised and retained
Construct a pedestrian/bicycle bridge from the south end of Permanente Creek Trail across Hwy 101.	•			Trail System		Completed
<ul> <li>Explore the possibility of a safer pedestrian crossing (potentially underground) at Charleston Road.</li> </ul>			•	Trail System		Retained
<ul> <li>Preserve and improve the public trail around the Charleston Retention Basin and improve access to Stevens Creek Trail.</li> </ul>	•			Trail System	Installed new layer of decomposed granite as new walking surface.	Completed

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTED	PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED	NOT IMPLEMENTED	PLANNING AREA	COMMENTS	STATUS IN 2014 PLAN
Continue to support development of the Bay Trail, particularly around Moffett Field to the Sunnyvale Baylands.	•			Trail System	The Bay Trail is completed, connecting Shoreline at Mountain View to the Sunnyvale Baylands.	Completed
Explore all opportunities to connect the City's regional open space areas to the Cargill Salt Ponds, as they are returned to their natural state.		•		Trail System	City is coordinating efforts with the South Bay Restoration Project and reviewing plans.	Retained
Work with other cities and agencies to develop Stevens Creek Trail and the Bay Trail for the purpose of developing a regional network of inter-linked trail systems.		•		Trail System	Working with the four cities to develop a feasibility study to extend the Stevens Creek Trail.	Retained

## PARK SITES/RECREATION PROGRAMS

<u>BUBB</u> Youth Sports Classes

Youth Soccer Youth Baseball

<u>CASTRO</u> After-School Program

Youth Camps Youth Soccer

<u>CHARLESTON</u> Youth Soccer

Special Events

COOPER Youth Soccer

Youth Baseball

**Tennis** 

CRITTENDEN Youth Football

Youth Soccer Adult Softball

Youth Girls Softball Youth Baseball

After-School Program Youth and Teen Camps

<u>CUESTA</u> Youth Sports Classes

Family and Group Barbecue Reservations Tennis (lessons, tournaments, leagues)

Special Events

Special Use Permits

<u>EAGLE</u> Swimming Pool

Youth Soccer Special Events

Special Use Permits

<u>GRAHAM</u> Youth Soccer

Youth Football

Youth Sports Camps and Classes

Youth Softball Youth Lacrosse

Adult Soccer

Youth and Teen Camps

Youth Baseball

After-School Program Special Use Permits

<u>HUFF</u> Theater Camp

Youth Baseball Youth Soccer

<u>LANDELS</u> Youth Soccer

Youth Rugby Youth Baseball

After-School Program

McKELVEY Youth Baseball

Youth Football Youth Soccer

MONTA LOMA Youth Baseball

Youth Soccer

After-School Program

**MOUNTAIN VIEW** 

<u>SPORTS PAVILION</u> Adult Basketball

Adult Open Gym Volleyball Adult Exercise Classes Youth Basketball Youth Futsal

Youth Sports Camps and Classes

Youth and Teen Camps Teen Special Events Private Group Rentals

<u>PIONEER</u> Special Events

Theatre Camp

RENGSTORFF AND COMMUNITY

**CENTER** 

Swimming Pool

Basketball

Tennis (lessons, tournaments, leagues)

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

Youth Sports Camps and Classes Youth and Teen Camps and Classes

Adult Classes Preschool

Family and Group Barbecue Reservations

Private Group Rentals

Skate Park
Special Events
Special Use Permits

<u>SLATER</u> Youth Baseball

Youth Softball Youth Soccer

STEVENSON/THEUERKAUF Youth Soccer

Youth Softball Youth Football

After-School Program

Special Events

<u>SYLVAN</u> Youth Soccer

Youth Volleyball Special Events

WHISMAN Youth Soccer

Youth Softball Youth Baseball Adult Soccer Special Events

WHISMAN SPORTS CENTER Adult Basketball

Adult Exercise Classes Youth Basketball

Youth Futsal

Private Group Rentals

Youth Sports Camps and Classes

Teen Open Gym

Youth and Teen Camps PAL Boxing Program

<u>SHORELINE</u> Windsurfing

Kite Flying Dog Park

Sailing/Boating

Summer Youth Camps

Special Events

Special Use Permits

SHORELINE GOLF LINKS

Junior Golf

# COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: AUGUST 2014

#### RECREATION

#### Administration

• New programs, Activity Guide – The Fall Recreation Activity Guide became available to the public August 22nd online with hard copies mailed home to residents beginning August 29th. The Recreation Division is especially proud of this edition which boasts a cleaner look and pictures to depict various programs offered by the Recreation Division. This is also the first Activity Guide to be digitally published using ISSUU, creating a real-life reading experience with course numbers linked to online registration information. The Recreation Division has also expanded program offerings to include more adult classes such as pilates, cardio hip hop and art, as well as new youth programs. This expansion resulted in the Recreation Division increasing the Fall Recreation Activity Guide from 16 pages to 20 pages.

### **Adult Sports**

• Fall Adult Softball has started with 24 teams divided up into five divisions of play: Monday Coed Rec – 6 teams

Tuesday Coed Comp - 4 teams

Wednesday Men's D - 6 teams

Wednesday Men's C/D - 4 teams

Thursday Men's C - 4 teams

Season is 10 games long plus the addition of playoffs.

## **Aquatics**

- Eagle and Rengstorff Pools offered their fourth session of morning and evening swim lessons this month. Ages ranged from 6 months to 14 years for group swim lessons. Eagle Pool had 277 swim lesson participants while Rengstorff Pool had a total of 192 lesson participants which included 16 private lessons. Eagle Pool Recreation Swim finished strong with a total attendance of 1185, and at Rengstorff, there have been almost 1,500 patrons taking advantage of Recreation Swim during the month of August. This included several YMCA camps and Mountain View Recreation camps.
- Lap Swim was offered 7 days a week at Eagle Pool. Lap Swim participants are enjoying the warmer weather and daily participation numbers are reaching over 100. Over 2,800 swimmers have participated in the Lap Swim program this month.

#### **Deer Hollow Farm**

- The Deer Hollow Farm summer camp program concluded this month with a group of middle school-aged campers hiking to the top of Black Mountain for an overnight and a week of sixty 6-10 year olds visiting the Farm.
- Preparation for registration for the school year program began early this month. Teachers and community groups will have until September 8, 2014 to return their completed forms and reserve their Deer Hollow Farm field trip date and time.



Deer Hollow Farm campers made it to the top of Black Mountain, an 8-mile hike! They spent the night and then made the 8-mile hike back the next morning.

• The Farm will be fully staffed in the near future. The recruitment for the vacant Recreation Coordinator position began on August 4. This position oversees the Farm's livestock program and has been filled by an hourly employee for the last six months. The hourly Lead Teacher position (responsible for the daily needs of the school year program and docent scheduling) was filled by Katie Sanders. Katie has been a Deer Hollow Farm summer camp counselor for three sessions and oversaw the summer camp program in 2012 when the Senior Recreation Coordinator was on maternity leave.

## **Elementary School-Age Programs**

- Camp Boogaloo concluded with its highest enrollment the week of August 4th. The camp enrolled a total of 41 participants for the final week. The camp enjoyed a variety of craft activities and games and went on a field trip to Homestead Bowl.
- On August 11, staff held all-staff in-service training and trained on various topics such as policies, engagement, behavior management, and CPR.

• Beyond the Bell started this month on August 19th at Castro, Theuerkauf, Monta Loma, and Landels Elementary Schools, as well as Crittenden Middle School. The after school programs are beginning a new curriculum this year to enhance the health and enrichment of our youth. Staff is leading Food and Fun (created by Harvard University) and SPARK physical education curriculum. Beyond the Bell leaders (both City of Mountain View staff & Mountain View Whisman School District staff) completed a full week of training prior to the start of the school year. The training week covered a wide range of topics such as Common Core, Behavior Management, Communication, Bully Prevention, and Yoga.







Left: Beyond the Bell staff helps a participant get her daily supper meal. Center: A youth needs assistance reading a BINGO square and finds help from a Beyond the Bell staff. Right: A group of participants, while having fun in program, pose for a photo.

## **Facility Rentals**

- BBQ rentals—Group BBQ areas were reserved, on the weekends, at approximately 85% capacity. The majority of the openings were at Rengstorff Park, as Cuesta was near 100% capacity. During the week, there were approximately 20 rentals which included a mix of private groups and corporate groups. Family table reservations were very popular on the day of with an estimated \$1,000 in revenue generate from "day of" reservations.
- Community Center—13 private rentals took place during the peak hours at the Community Center. During off-peak hours, or during normal operating hours, there were a combined 113 bookings by 26 different groups. Primary use of the Community Center in August was by summer camps.
- Adobe 7 private rentals took place at the Adobe Building and there were 5 meetings by regular user groups.

- Senior Center There were 5 private rentals at the Senior Center in August including a Wedding and Sweet 16.
- Gymnasium Rental Applications were submitted on August 14 & 15 for the fall rental period for the months of October – December. A total of 49 applications were received for this upcoming rental period. We had 56 groups with rentals in the month of August, and continue to receive calls throughout the week interested in renting the gym facilities.

## Middle School and High School Programming

- The House Teen Center The House wrapped up summer hours on August 16, 2014. School year hours began on August 18, 2014. The summer saw regular participations enjoying activities and comfortable place to relax and have fun. Four new participants have been added to The House membership during the month of August.
- The View Teen Center continues to progress along with construction milestones. The large group room has sheetrock on the walls and the windows for the front of the building are on site, ready for installation. Recreation staff has begun the planning process for a Grand Opening ceremony event, tentatively scheduled in November. Community partners are beginning to take shape in the projected programming for participants at The View.





Sheetrock installation at The View Teen Center construction site.

• Leader in Training Program — Over the summer months a total of 52 LIT volunteers contributed approximately 3,500 hours to summer recreation camps. The Recreation Division's summer camp program would not be possible without these teens and their many hours of service. LITs accompanied camps on excursions all around the Bay Area, to the two pools in Mountain View, learned songs and games, and provided a fun and safe camp environment for campers. An appreciation event was

held on August 1, 2014 for all of the summer LITs, both full-time and hourly staff were present to thank the LITs for their hard work and dedication.



Leaders in Training from Aquatic and Recreation Camp programs with staff from Rengstorff and Eagle Pools and Recreation Summer Camps.

 Beyond the Bell at Crittenden MS started on Tuesday, August 19. The middle school students were engaged with positive role models while receiving homework help and participating in activities. Recreation leaders hosted yoga sessions followed by bully prevention talks every Thursday. Youth have had positive reactions to this new activity because it exposes them to a new physical fitness routine and allows for a safe place to talk about bullying.



Beyond the Bell 7th & 8th students at Crittenden Middle School participate in a yoga lesson led by recreation leaders.

Teen Open Gym – Through August 23, 2014 Teen Open Gym has hosted 52 participants. These students enjoy three hours of open gym time on Saturday evenings to play games for free at the Whisman Sports Center. Staff is looking forward to increasing participation numbers during the school year with promotional outings at high schools in Mountain View.

- Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)—Meetings for the 2014-2015 term began August 18, 2014. The new members were welcomed and an ice breaker/get-to-know you activity was played. At the August 25, 2014 meeting, members had an opportunity to nominate themselves or others for the chair or vice chair positions. The YAC also began the brainstorming process of generating ideas for the work plan.
- August's Teen Friendly Business presentation was given to Cinemark Century Theaters. Four YAC representatives met on August 20, 2014 to present the management staff with the certificate. This business in particular is especially important to teens in Mountain View, as the movies are frequently visited by teens.
- The Youth Advisory Committee supported recreation staff during the Summer Outdoor Movie Night Series. YAC prepared popcorn snack bags and water for movie goers. They are a friendly face for families to see as they prepare to enjoy movies at various park sites. The group debriefed their contributions to the movie series at the August 18, 2014 meeting and agreed that more YAC participation throughout the summer would make these already fun Friday nights more exciting.





Photos: (Left) YAC Presenting to Cinemark Century Theaters for August Teen Friendly Business. (Right) YAC Members being sworn in at their August 18, 2014 meeting.

#### **Preschool Program**

- PlaySchool and Tot Time –In preparation of the new school year and to better ensure student success, the preschool program offered two opportunities for preschool families to develop familiarity with the program and to start building community among preschool families.
- Preschool parent orientation took place on August 25 and August 26. Parent orientation provided preschool families with information regarding program philosophy, classroom policies, and the school calendar.

- Additionally, preschool open house took place on August 27 and August 28. Open house provided preschoolers with an opportunity to meet the teachers, engage in craft activities, and to become more familiar with the classroom. Preschool classes will begin on September 3, 2014.
- There are currently 75 participants enrolled in the fall preschool classes.

## **Senior Center and Programs**

- Workshops: During August, there was a workshop for almost every kind of interest, with a total of seven workshops over the course of the month. Workshops on Beethoven and Senior Driving Safety were packed, and a last minute introductory computer class taught by Google employees was completely full. In addition, there were workshops on Sudoku, hip pain, walking for health, and senior trauma.
- Lunchtime Luau: On Friday, August 15, the Senior Nutrition Program held a special Hawaiian themed luncheon. Participants enjoyed live music, hula demonstrations and an ice cream social. And of course, many patrons dressed to match the occasion. A trip to the islands without the long flight!
- Moon River Fashion Show: The Senior Center Fashion Show took place on Thursday, August 21. Twenty models, patrons of the Senior Center, participated in this year's show. They modeled clothes created from discarded materials by volunteers from FabMo. This is the second year that the Mountain View non-profit has provided clothing for the fashion show. Additionally, models showed off clothes from their own closet, from elegant evening wear to traditional outfits to fun party clothes. The free event included a raffle and refreshments.
- 8th Annual Resource Fair: The eighth annual Resource Fair took place on Tuesday, August 26 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Forty-four senior service providers were on hand at the Senior Center to distribute information to senior citizens and their families. The event was co-sponsored by the Community Services Agency and El Camino Hospital. Several new participants this year, including Great Streets Mountain View and Silicon Valley Independent Living Center, took their place among Resource Fair staples such as Sourcewise, Avenidas Rose Kleiner, and the Senior Advisory Committee.

#### **PARKS**

#### Administration

• Staff installed a new full-body swing designed for disabled children at Sierra Vista Park. An ADA compliant extension was added to accommodate one of the existing bucket swings. This was done so there would be no net loss of play equipment at the park.



Sierra Vista Park

• Staff was busy this month working with the irrigation designer on the system for McKelvey Park.

#### **District Parks**

- Irrigation use for the month was an average of 78% of normal summer water usage. This includes a 10% reduction for the drought. Turf in some areas is showing stress damage.
- The soccer fields at Castro, Bubb, Huff, Landels, Cooper and Graham were opened for play on August 18th.
- As the summer field play season comes to a close at Eagle, the condition of both soccer practice areas is very poor. They are both finishing the summer season at the lowest condition observed in several years. Both fields are heavily used by the public for many unorganized sports activities and in addition, this year, the fields have been opened up for off leash dog play from 6:00am to 10:00 am. It would be beneficial to close both fields so the whole area could be reseeded. However the field renovation schedule has only one field closed at a time in order to reduce the impact to the public.

- McKelvey Little League Field and the big field were closed in August in order to resod and reseed weak areas in preparation for fall ball. The fields will be open September 1st.
- White grub damage first started showing up on the turf fields in mid-August. Both McKelvey infields will be treated to reduce damage by this pest. Typically in order to reduce the amount of treated areas (best IPM practices) we only treat the heavily used turf areas that must sustain heavy activity such as soccer and baseball infields. The other areas are left to recover on their own or through reseeding in late fall or early spring.
- The South Parks roving crew had one trail work day on Stevens Creek Trail, to pull loose stakes, check some irrigation, raise trees and cut down random tall weeds that escaped the summer mowing.
- Several redwoods in Cuesta Park are showing stress due to the drought. These are
  typically trees that are not getting additional irrigation from the turf. We have set up
  a soaker hose regime to give them additional water to help them make it through the
  drought.
- The triangular turf area at Rengstorff Park was renovated. The sprinkler heads were upgraded and the turf area was aerated, reseeded and covered with redwood compost.

### Construction/Irrigation

• The irrigation and construction crew made an irrigation repair to the mainline that provides water to several medians on El Camino Real near Los Altos. In order to make the repair they had to jackhammer and remove approximately15' of sidewalk, make the repair and then pour a new concrete sidewalk.

#### Shoreline at Mountain View

- Several dead trees and bushes were removed or raised at Northshore to allow soil to be placed in low areas. New soil will continued to be imported for new plants and irrigation to be installed next month.
- Installed five new valves for drip systems along the entrance road into Shoreline Park.
- Completed installation of wood chips in two landscaped areas for the Shoreline biologist in Northshore. The chips were spread out and the irrigation was inspected for any leaks or breaks.
- Pressure washed the Dog Park and Play Scow.

#### **Charleston Park**

- Applied gypsum in thin turf areas around the park. Gypsum helps unbind salts built up in the soil from recycled water and allows them to be flushed through the soil profile.
- Pressure washed the brick patio area every week due to high concentrations of geese near the water fall.

#### **Stevens Creek Trail**

- Completed trimming back trees and vegetation along the trail and the entrance from Moffett Field.
- Installed new plants along the trail and added new drip lines off the current system.

### Roadway Landscape: North Bayshore

Continued raising and repairing sprinklers in the center medians on Shoreline Road.
 Over 30 new nozzles were installed on the sprinklers for better coverage and less runoff for the trees and vegetation.

#### FORESTRY & ROADWAY LANDSCAPE

#### Administration

• Staff completed installation of a temporary irrigation system for the future park at 771 N. Rengstorff Avenue. The automated system will provide water for the redwoods, fruit and citrus trees that will be preserved as part of the park design. The system is designed to operate for the next 18 to 24 months until construction starts on the park.

#### Roadway Landscape

- The median islands were serviced on: Central Expressway at Shoreline, El Camino Real at Palo Alto, East bound Middlefield at Whisman, Cypress Point median, Shoreline and Farley, Grant Road, El Camino Real from Showers Drive to Rengstorff Avenue.
- The crew continued inspection and repair of irrigation systems to help with water conservation efforts. Repairs were made at the Adobe Building, El Camino Real at Palo Alto, Central Expressway at various locations, California Ave, and Shoreline Boulevard.

 Crew worked on diagnosing irrigation wire issues at the Adobe building and worked with the construction crew to resolve the issue. The valves on the exterior wall along Central Expressway and Santa Rosa Avenue could not be activated from the controller.

#### **Castro Street & Civic Center**

- The downtown crew leader continued with an irrigation upgrade at the entry islands from El Camino to Castro Street. The seals on the heads were causing the system not to pressurize so the heads are being replaced with smaller pop-ups to improve performance and eliminate losses from loose fittings from under the heads and seals. The east side is complete and ready for new Day Lilies this fall.
- The downtown crew removes graffiti and stickers weekly and the Kiosks are stripped of the old flyers twice a month to maintain order and appearance.
- The crew continued inspection and repair of irrigation systems to help with water conservation efforts. Irrigation repairs were made in lot 4, 5, 6 and 7.

### Weekend Work Furlough

- The sides of the Whisman overpass at Central Expressway were trimmed and pine needles removed to reduce fire hazard.
- The crew trimmed up plants up front at the MOC where the Fire Department has their fire training steel storage enclosure. Removed branches and leaves to help control fires in area.
- The crew trimmed the fence along Willowgate and Central Expressway trimming ivy and shrubs away from the curb line.

#### **SHORELINE**

#### **Rengstorff House**

- Approximately 1,050 people visited the Rengstorff House in the month of August. This included regular docent-led tours; visitors from the Shoreline Aquatic Center camps program (on a weekly basis through August 19); and attendees of the Friends of "R" House Arts Festival opening reception as well as four concerts.
- Throughout the month of August, the Friends of "R" House hosted various events in conjunction with its annual Arts Festival events and display. On Thursday, August 7, approximately 75 children, families and members of the public attended an opening reception of art on display by students of the Art4Schools program of the Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) as well as local fine artists. On the first four Sundays of the month, the Friends also hosted concerts in the gardens, including: Divisa Ensemble (engaging and eclectic programming from a

flute/oboe/violin/viola/cello quintet); The Littlest Birds (banjo and cello instrumental music with a backwoods soul); Oscar Reynolds (Andean flute and fiery Afro-Latin jazz guitar); as well as Teal Crane Trio (fresh, innovative and highly improvised music that "your groovy sister would love"). In total, nearly 575 participants attended the Friends' reception and/or concert events.



Art display at the Rengstorff House during the month of August – as part of the Friends of "R" House Arts Festival in partnership with CSMA

• Twelve (12) private events were held at the facility.

#### **Environmental**

• The Burrowing Owl Biologist observed a total of 10 burrowing owls during this reporting period. The family of burrowing owls that reproduced on the golf course are moving continuously back and forth between the golf course and Vista Slope, during one survey the entire family was on an artificial mound at the edge of the golf course, while the next day only one remained at the mound the others had moved to Vista Slope, only to return to the mound by the next survey. The NE Meadowlands has had an increase of one burrowing owl; it has a Shoreline band on its leg but has not been identified yet for its numerical code.

## Total Number of Burrowing Owls on a Monthly Basis 2011-2014

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2014	9	12	11	6	9	10	11	10				
2013	14	13	13	8	8	14	13	13	9	10	13	13
2012	12	10	11	7	11	10	9	9	7	13	15	16
2011	8	7	4	5	7	14	15	11	9	12	11	15
Avg.	11	10	10	7	9	13	12	11	8	11	12	10

• Four weekly surveys of the entire Shoreline area were conducted to monitor Canada geese and America coot numbers during this reporting period. The results of the weekly surveys are as follows:

August 2014	Canada Geese	American Coots
First Week	360	9
Second Week	317	6
Third Week	290	5
Fourth Week	322	6

- Coot numbers are remaining stable, while goose numbers are starting to decline; geese have completed the molt season and are actively moving around including movement to other sites outside of Shoreline.
- One mound with 6 artificial burrows was installed in the NE Meadowlands for burrowing owls to replace ground squirrel burrows that were removed during a cap repair project for Land fill activities.



Burrowing owl in defense posture as ground squirrel approaches

 The California ground squirrel re-location project; live trapping ground squirrels on the golf course and moving them to areas of low squirrel abundance in the NE Meadowlands to benefit burrowing owls, has proved to be very successful.
 The target number of squirrels (300 individuals) has almost been reached.
 As of August 26, 258 squirrels were captured over a total of only 25 trapping days in both July and August.



California ground squirrels live trapped on the golf course, ready for release in the NE Meadowlands

• A swallow nesting structure was installed adjacent to the Maintenance Building to encourage use of the new structure for the 2015 breeding season while nesting deterrents will be placed on the Maintenance Building when all the present swallows have completed their breeding cycle for 2014. Nests on the building have increased the amount of bird droppings along the side of the building on three sides and also along the pathway adjacent to the building.



Swallow nesting structure on Vista Slope, adjacent to Maintenance Building

 There was a significant increase in cats and especially kittens observed at Shoreline this reporting period including kittens that were abandoned, approximately 95% of the kittens were captured.



Litter of kittens captured at Michaels Restaurant at Shoreline

## **SHORELINE GOLF**

### **Operations**

- In August, rounds of golf at Shoreline reached 8,604 compared to only 7,698 last year showing a growth of 12 %. For the new fiscal year, rounds have grown by 10% compared to prior year.
- Membership sales slowed slightly this month. The Players Club program had 38
  memberships expire this month and only 24 sales resulting in 14 fewer Players Club
  Members. Our total Membership count is 668, which includes 244 Frequent Players,
  28 quarterly, and 396 Players Club.
- Tournament Green Fee sales reached \$24,483 in August. This too is slightly down from prior year. Overall Tournament Green Fees for the Fiscal Year are up 14% compared to prior year.
- Preparation for the Mountain View City Championship has begun which takes place on September 20 & 21. This Tournament brings amateur golfers from all around Northern California to compete for points from the Northern California Golfers Association.

#### Maintenance

## • Irrigation Water Use

Irrigation water conservation practices are in use on the golf course. There are no restrictions relating to the use of recycled water, while domestic water use are under local and state restrictions. The table below shows the reduction in irrigation usages over the same time periods of last year. September is trending with reductions as shown.

	July	Aug	Sept
Total Irrigation Reduction	7.88%	8.83%	4.36%
Domestic Water Reduction	51.51%	34.96%	34.08%

## • Project #10 Fairway Turf Improvement

The project of installing drainage and re-grassing the areas on #10 fairway is progressing well. Drainage has been installed. Approximately one third of the bare areas have been graded and sod is being installed.

